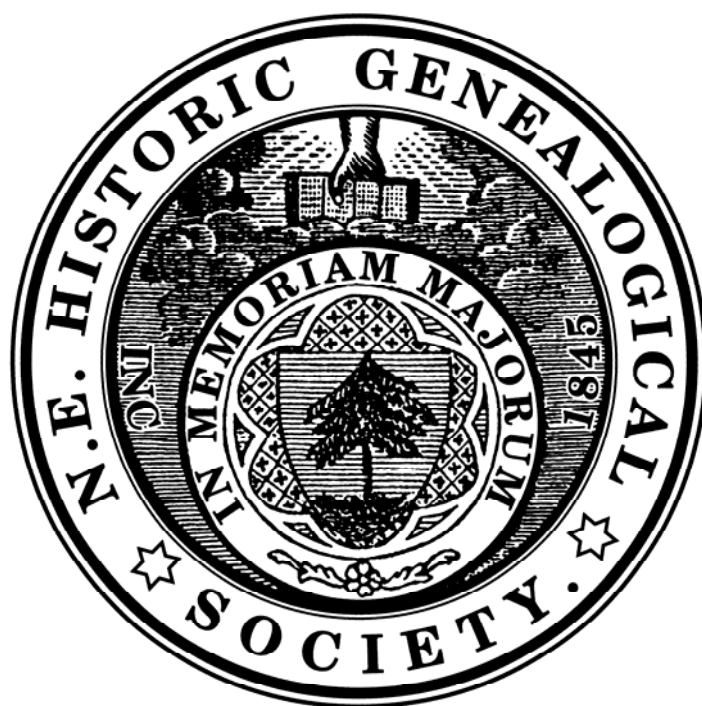


The New England Historical and Genealogical Register



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**THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL
AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER®**

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EDITORIAL

The first four articles in this issue involve English origins of New England colonists, but all four articles developed differently. The **Ancestry of Bennet Eliot of Nazeing, Essex, Father of Seven Great Migration Immigrants to Massachusetts**, is a problem that has interested New England genealogists for well over a century, especially because one of his children was the Rev. John Eliot, “Apostle to the Indians.” The author, William Wyman Fiske, found an original manorial court roll from 1580 that proved the parentage of Bennet Eliot. Additional research in wills in the Essex Record Office helped tie Bennet to the known Eliot family.

Besides identifying New England colonists, it is also important to point out false identifications. Author Brandon Fradd does this in **Abraham Toppan Was Not a Yorkshire Man**, correcting an 1879 *Register* article.

One entry in the IGI can be the grain of sand that produces a pearl. Such an entry led to discovery of **The English Origins of Jeffrey Staple of Weymouth, Massachusetts**, by Gail Staples. Instead of coming from Somerset, the family came from Buckinghamshire — and John Staple of Weymouth is now proved to have been a son of Jeffrey Staple.

In contrast, it was already known that Thomas Burton came from London. In **The English Ancestry of Thomas Burton of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, Signer of the Remonstrance of 1646**, author Peter Ray has taken the Burton family back to the mid-1500s in Fulham, Middlesex, a suburb of London. The article includes data on Thomas Burton’s grandson, Stephen Burton, who immigrated to Rhode Island in the early 1670s.

If we believed everything in print or online, Judith Luce had three husbands, each younger than the preceding one. In **Abiah Coye (ca. 1720–ca. 1783) of Preston, Connecticut, and Hallowell, Maine**, author Judith Waite Freeman shows that the second and third husbands have been misidentified and were actually much older than Judith Luce — who appears frequently in the diary of Martha Ballard, the well-known Maine midwife.

We often concentrate on when someone immigrated to America without considering return trips to Europe. In **A Small Window of Opportunity: The Norris Family Returns to Tamlaghtmore, Co. Tyrone, Ireland**, Sharon DeBartolo Carmack documents a return trip to Ireland made by her ancestors between 6 June 1900 and 21 November 1901. This trip generated valuable records about the family, especially since they were in the 1901 census of Ireland.

In **Abigail (Lothrop) Huntington’s Second Husband, Samuel Baker, of Windsor, Connecticut**, Don Blauvelt establishes that Abigail’s second husband was Samuel² Baker (*Jeffrey*¹) of Windsor, Connecticut, not Samuel Baker (*Rev. Nicholas*¹) of Barnstable, Massachusetts. The 1917 Nicholas Baker genealogy had recognized that there was a problem, but had not considered that Abigail’s second husband might have been from a different family.

Genealogy of Samuel Peirce, First Settler of Zoar, Massachusetts, treats the children and grandchildren of Samuel⁵ Peirce (*Samuel*⁴⁻³, *Thomas*²⁻¹), substantially correcting and adding to the 1882 Pierce genealogy. Despite the common surname and frequent moves, the author Jon Wardlow has created a remarkably complete record of this family.

There were three families named Wallis in colonial Beverly, Massachusetts, and John Bradley Arthaud has been working on them for years. He and Michael Boyer O'Leary have written **The Nathaniel and Anna (Balch) (Rich) Wallis Family of Beverly, Massachusetts**. As with many families, some branches left good records while others vanished into thin air. This Wallis family was like that, and as a result, the coverage of descendants is unavoidably uneven.

Author Nathaniel Lane Taylor presents further research on the Farmer family in England and extends their ancestry back to a marriage in 1570 in Part Three of **Genealogist John Farmer Discovers His Ancestry: The Warwickshire Family of Edward¹ Farmer, Isabel¹ (Farmer) (Wyman) (Blood) Green, and Thomas¹ Pollard, of Billerica, Massachusetts**.

Finally, the NEHGS Annual Report for fiscal year 2006 (September 1, 2005 – August 31, 2006) will be published in *New England Ancestors* magazine (Summer 2007).

In each April editorial, I have been thanking the people who make the *Register* successful. Associate editor **Helen Ullmann**'s role is essential, not only for her editing and research, but also because two heads *are* better than one when editing a genealogical journal. Colleagues at NEHGS have been unfailingly helpful and supportive, especially **Lynn Betlock, Meg Haines, Jean Powers, Steven Shilcusky, Brenton Simons, Scott Steward, Olga Tugarina, and Tom Wilcox**. **Julie Otto** produces our excellent index, and **Gary Boyd Roberts** reviews all the *Register* articles.

We rely on our consulting editors for their valuable input and research, and in the past twelve months I have sought help from consulting editors **Bob Anderson, David Dearborn, Charles Hansen, and Cliff Stott** beyond the call of duty. I also want to thank **Joe Anderson, Drew Bartley, and Pat Hatcher** for their assistance.

– Henry B. Hoff

NOTE:

Current issues of the *Register* may now be found on *NewEnglandAncestors.org*, starting with the January 2007 issue. Any member who wishes to discontinue receiving paper copies of the *Register* should notify the NEHGS Membership Department (*membership@nehgs.org*). Making this choice does not affect dues.

ANCESTRY OF BENNET ELIOT OF NAZEING, ESSEX, FATHER OF SEVEN GREAT MIGRATION IMMIGRANTS TO MASSACHUSETTS

William Wyman Fiske

It has long been known that Bennet and Lettice Eliot of Nazeing, Essex, were the parents of seven immigrants to Massachusetts between 1631 and 1640: Rev. John Eliot of Roxbury, the “Apostle to the Indians,” Philip Eliot of Boston, Jacob Eliot of Boston, Francis Eliot of Braintree, Sarah (Eliot) Curtis (wife of William) of Roxbury, Lydia (Eliot) Penniman (wife of James) of Boston, and Mary (Eliot) Payson (wife of Edward) of Roxbury.^[1] The July 2006 issue of the *Register* contained a short article on the ancestry of Lettice (Alger) Eliot;^[2] the present article focuses on that of her husband, which includes common Eliot ancestry with the Haynes family of Massachusetts and Connecticut, and the Claiborne family of Maryland and Virginia.

The ancestry of Bennet^A Eliot has eluded several attempts to place him precisely within the Eliot kindreds of Widford, Hunsdon, Ware, and Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire. Virtually all that is known of these branches of the Eliot family can be found in work published by W. Winters,^[3] Henry F. Waters,^[4] and G. Andrews Moriarty.^[5] Briefly, the will of George Eliot of [Bishops] Stortford, dated 12 January 1548/9,^[6] provides the basis for an understanding of the Eliot family. The will mentions five living siblings: eldest brother John Eliot of Stortford, Robert Eliot of Hunsdon, Thomas Eliot of Widford, youngest brother John Eliot, and sister Joan Haynes. From which of them, if any, was Bennet Eliot descended?

What little is known about Bennet Eliot himself can be easily summarized. He and Lettice were married at Widford, Hertfordshire, 30 October 1598. This suggests he was born about 1580 at the latest. However, it is likely that he was older, as many men did not marry until well into their thirties. After having several children baptized at Widford, he and Lettice moved to Nazeing, an Essex parish five miles to the south, near Epping, Waltham Holy Cross, and Roxwell

¹ Robert Charles Anderson, George Freeman Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume II C–F* (Boston: NEHGS, 2001), 413, 416.

² William Wyman Fiske, “Ancestry of Lettice (Alger) Eliot of Nazeing, Essex: Mother of Seven Great Migration Immigrants to Massachusetts,” *Register* 160 (2006):181–84.

³ W. Winters, “The Pilgrim Fathers of Nazing [*sic*],” *Register* 28 (1874):140–45; W. Winters, “The Eliot Family,” *Register* 39 (1885):365–71.

⁴ Henry F. Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England*, 2 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1901; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969), 2:894–912; also in *Register* 48 (1894):385–404.

⁵ G. Andrew Moriarty, “Eliot of Bishops Stortford,” *Register* 107 (1953):213–17.

⁶ Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 4], 2:894–95.

(places where several branches of the Eliot family had settled). Finally, Bennet's 1621 will names land in the Hertfordshire parishes of Ware, Widford, Hunsdon, and Eastwick.^[7]

In starting the search for Bennet's parentage, it seemed likely that his claim to land in Widford indicated inheritance from one of the Eliots known to have been of that parish. Lettice's own roots were in Nazeing, making it less likely that the ties to Widford were hers.^[8] Unfortunately, of the five known branches of the Eliots (descended from the 1548/9 testator, George Eliot, and his four brothers), at least three had a presence in Widford. And each of the five brothers had a number of male heirs. Thus, in the absence of either a clear trail of property inheritance or any probate testimonials connecting Bennet to a specific member of this family, the search for his parentage necessarily began with a comprehensive evaluation of each of these lines, included in the Genealogical Summary in the next two parts of this article. An abbreviated chart of the family is at the end of this part.

At the onset, several coincidences suggested that Bennet had an association with a contemporary Philip Eliot of Hunsdon, parentage then unknown. Although Philip's will was published by Henry F. Waters (who suggested his father's name was John),^[9] no significance appears to have been assigned to the fact that Bennet and Lettice Eliot named their first son Philip, their second son John, and their second daughter Lydia,^[10] a name that Philip gave to his oldest daughter. Also, of all the Eliots so far examined, only Bennet's son John and Philip's son James took degrees from Cambridge and entered the clergy.^[11]

Two wills, both of which appear to have escaped the notice of previous researchers, identify Philip Eliot and ultimately help to clarify the ties between Bennet and Philip. The first is that of Philip's father, John Eliot "of Olives" in Hunsdon, dated 22 April 1585, proved in May 1585.^[12] John named his son Philip but made no mention of Bennet Eliot.

In the name of god Amen in the xxijth daie of Aprill in the yeare of our Lord god 1585 I John Eliot of Olives in the parishe of hunsdon in the countie of hartford yeoman sicke of bodie but of good and perfecte memorie . . . Item I geve to the poore

⁷ Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 4], 2:904–06.

⁸ Fiske, "Ancestry of Lettice (Alger) Eliot" [note 2], *Register* 160:181–84.

⁹ Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 4], 2:911–12.

¹⁰ Bennet and Lettice (Alger) Eliot named their children, in order: Sarah, Philip, John, John, Jacob, Lydia, Francis, and Mary. The names of Philip's children, in order, were: John, twins Lydia and Effa, James, Daniel, Hester, and Mary. See the Genealogical Summary in the next two parts of this article. The name Philip does not appear in the Alger family, so far as Lettice Alger's ancestry is known.

¹¹ James Eliot, son of Philip, graduated from King's College and served as the rector of Rayleigh, Essex; John Eliot, son of Bennet, graduated from Jesus College (John Venn and J. A. Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses: A Biographical List of All Known Students, Graduates and Holders of Office at the University of Cambridge, from the Earliest Times to 1900, Part I (From the Earliest Times to 1751)*, 4 vols. [Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1922–27], 2:94–95).

¹² Essex Record Office, Archdeaconry of Middlesex, D/AMR 4/58.

of the parishe of hunsdon . . . Item I geve and bequeathe to William Eliot my eldest sonn iij s iiijd of lawefull englishe money and a pair of sheets of his mothers bequeste Item I geve and bequeathe to Jeffereye my sonne a yearelie annuetie of Fower pounds of lawefull englishe money to be paid out of the the lease of my Farme called Ollives . . . But if the said Jeffrey die within sixe yeares next after my deceasse then my will and minde is my Executors shall paie to Ferdinando henrye and Margerie my children to eache of them twentie Nobles of lawefull englishe money within three yeares . . . Item I geve to the said Jeffereye my sonn xs of Lawefull Englishe and a paier of sheets of his mother bequest to be paid & delivered to him within one yeare next after my deceasse, Item I geve and bequeathe to Ferdinando my sonn tenn pounds of lawefull Englishe money to be paid to him within two yeares after my deceasse and I geve unto him twentie nobles of lawefull englishe money to be paid unto him at his age of twentie and eight yeares, Allsoe I geve unto him xs and a paier of sheete of his mothers bequest to be paid and delivered unto him within one yeare next after my deceasse Item I geve and bequeathe unto Henrie my sonn tenn poundes of lawefull English money to be paid unto him at his age of twentie and fower yeares, Alsoe I geve unto him twentie nobles of lawefull Englishe money to be paid to him at his age of twentie and eight yeares Alsoe I geve unto him tenn shillings and a paier of sheets of his mothers bequest to be paid and delivered unto him at his age of xxij yeares . . . Item I geve and bequeathe to everie one of my sonn Williams children now living xi s iiijd a piece of lawefull Englishe money to be paid to them at their severall age of xxi yeares . . . portion shall remaine to my Executor with rest of my goods chattells cattell debts moveables and unmoveables together with the leasse of my Farme called Olives wherein I dwell . . . I doe whollie and onelie geve all and everie of them to Phillippe my sonn whom I make my true faithefull sole and onelie executor . . . And if it soe fall out that Phillippe my sonn die without . . . heire my will and minde is that Ferdinando my sonn shall have my foresaid lease . . . and alsoe to paie . . . to henrye and Jeffereye my sonnes and to Margerie my daughter to eche out of them twentie markes of lawefull Englishe money . . . and I ordaine and make for my overseers to see this my testament and last will . . . James Campe and George Underwood of Roidon . . . Lastelie I give all my rights . . . in a tenement called Winslowes Legates at Smithes greene in hunsdon . . . to my sonn Ferdinando and his heires forever witnesses to this last will & testament John Walett Thomas Reddington Henrye Ailles and me John Hopkins writer.

This same John Eliot “of Olives” was named as co-executor of the will of [his brother], Thomas Eliot of Widford, dated 17 March 1557/[?8].^[13] Thomas named wife Margery, brother Simon, and children George, Thomas, Blyth, and Winifred:

In the name of god Amen In ye yeare of owre lorde god a thousande vc lvii [1557] the xvii day of marche that I Thomas Elyatt of the paryshe of Wyedford beyng syke of body but holle of mynd whereof I geve god harty thanks . . . I geven unto Margery my wyfe all my housse & lands that I now dwell in for tyme of ix yeare att myghhellmas nexte comynge to bring up my cheldren and if she kepe harselke a wedow but & yf she do mary she to avoyd for he shall not come hare but to

¹³ Essex Record Office, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction: D/ABW 13/55.

take . . . halfe the corne & the other halfe to remayne with ye farmar and she to have the rent of it for ye tyme aforsayd to kepe ye chyeldern with mete drynk . . . lynon wollon hose & al thyns necessesare for cheldern to have I geve unto gorge ye rent one [illegible] unto Blythe the rent of ye sayd howse & lands on yere & unto Wenefryd ye rent of ye sayd howse [word illegible] And ye other halfe of ye corne yt remayne with ye farmar ye . . . [word illegible] it beyng on the age of xvi yere I geve unto blyth on cow and a bulloke and unto venyfryd on cove and a bulloke . . . & iff ye on[e] of the dowghters dye the other dowghter to inheryte the cattell and the rent of ye yere above named & if ye one of my sonnes dye the other to enheryte the lands also my wife shall [hard to discern passage which appears to set out the wife's responsibilities regarding the upkeep of the testator's property] . . . and if her husbände and she well not kep the cheldern . . . than ye cheldren shall comto ye farmer and he shall kepe them [illegible] and she shall not have the rente for ye yere above wreten also I geve unto gorge my sonne al my copy hould land in hunsdone & ware [illegible] and if gorge do dye I geve the tenymment called Sammes [two words crossed out, possibly Dowyng hawly] unto margery my wyfe dewryng hare lyfe and then to retorne to ye hayer also I wyll yt my hayer shall not geve nor sell my howse nor lands but that it remayne to the hayer malle accordyng to my fathers wyll also I geve unto John Elyat of olyve & Symon elyat & [Tomas Mells, crossed out] for ther paynes takyng to my wyell Also I orden to be myne executore John Elyat of olevs and Symon Elyat my brother [a final paragraph is written at the bottom of the page with notation to suggest that it should be placed here, as follows] And if my wyfe be with chylde I geve unto yt that . . . vij li xs & unto blythe & wenefryd other vij li xs to be devyde betwene them & to be payed at ye day of marryage & if they do mary before xx yere & if they do not marry tyll xx yere be past they to be payd att ye age of xx yere and if she be not with chyeld ye mony that ye chylde shuld have to be devyde betwene ye tow dowghters at ye day above named & if it fortyn yt al [illegible, but appears to signify any unborn] chylde do dye then my wyffe to have ye one halfe & gorge my sonn the other halfe of the mony & if gorge dye then tomas my sonne to have ye half of ye mony & ye mony to be payde out of ye . . . and I will Symon my brother to be the farmar & if my wyfe do mary he to have itt for ye rent v li by yere and he to desscharche lord & kinge & if al my sonnes dye then margery my wyfe to have ye other half . . . & margery to dwell in ye [illegible] housse beyng wedow as longe as she leveth & she to take al my detts & to pay all my detts & leggages.

In wyettnes hereof John Elyatt & [Wyllm Dyer, crossed out and replaced with Tomas parnell] & Tomas Smythe & Rychard [illegible]

This document is of particular interest since Thomas Eliot stipulates that property in Widford, Ware, and Hunsdon should pass to his male heir and was to be neither sold nor given away *according to the will of his father*. This particular reference leaves little doubt that he was the son of Thomas Eliot of Widford, whose 1551 will leaves his land in Widford and Ware to his son Thomas and his male heirs.^[14] Based on the coincidence of holdings in Hunsdon, Ware, and

¹⁴ The will of Thomas Elyot of Widford was dated 26 November 1551 and proved 13 November 1554. He left to his son Thomas "and to his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten

Widford, it was tempting to believe Bennet Eliot to be a grandson of the younger Thomas Eliot, the 1557 testator.

In 1953 G. Andrews Moriarty attempted to reevaluate the question of Bennet Eliot's origins using the Hertfordshire Feet of Fines, as compiled by William Brigg.^[15] Unfortunately, without knowledge of the younger Thomas Eliot's 1557 will, the significance of one particularly important entry was missed: Thomas Elyotte and Clement Dawes, with wife Margery, devised four messuages and land in Widford and Ware to George Elyotte during Hilary Term, 17 Elizabeth [1574/5].^[16] Margery Dawes was very likely the widow of the younger Thomas Eliot, having married twice following his death: first to John Colubell on 20 November 1558 at Widford and then, as Margret Colubyne, to Clement Dawes on 30 October 1570 at Widford.^[17] Thomas specified that Margery was to have use of the land for nine years, presumably the time necessary at the date of his will's creation in 1557 for his eldest son, George, to reach his majority at age 21. However, this George Eliot died in September 1565,^[18] and the land in Widford and Ware was subsequently sold by his younger brother, Thomas Eliot.^[19]

Ultimately, the descendants of Thomas Eliot, the 1551 testator, along with their Widford and Ware lands, proved to be a red herring. Unable to secure convincing evidence of Bennet's descent from this or any other known Eliot branch through study of probate, parish registers, or feet of fines, attention was next turned to manorial records. Happily, success came in the form of the Manor of Much Hadham, whose rolls offered definitive proof that Simon Eliot, third son of Thomas Eliot, the 1551 testator, was Bennet's father.^[20]

my house and all my lands, being freehold, situate and lying in the said parish of Widford and in the parish of Ware. And if the said Thomas die without issue male lawfully of him begotten then I will the said house and lands to my son John Elyot and to his heirs male . . . And for lack of issue male as before mentioned of the said Thomas and John my sons then I will the said house and lands lineally to descend to the next heirs male of the strain and kindred of me the forenamed Thomas Elyot." (Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 4], 2:895–96).

¹⁵ Moriarty, "Eliot of Bishop's Stortford" [note 5], *Register* 107:214–17; William Brigg, ed., *The Herts Genealogist and Antiquary*, vols. 1–3 (1895–99).

¹⁶ Brigg, *Herts Genealogist and Antiquary* [note 15], 2:176.

¹⁷ Parish registers of Widford, Hertfordshire [FHL 0,991,404].

¹⁸ George Eliot, son of Thomas Eliot, was buried 26 September 1565 (parish registers of Widford [note 17]).

¹⁹ On 1 February 17 Elizabeth [1574/5], Thomas Eliot, citizen and haberdasher of London, transferred to George Eliot of Albury, Hertfordshire, certain properties "known by the name or names of Ydonyis, Elyottes, Wynteris, Randis, Watermans . . . within the severall parishes and fields of wydford and ware or elles where w[i]thin the sayde countye of hert . . . w[hi]ch late were of the possessions of Thomas Elyotte father of the said Thomas." (indenture at the Hertfordshire Record Office, DE/Cm38058; includes the original deed upon which it was based, dated 19 November 17 Elizabeth [1574]). In 1587 "Elyottes" was held by Augustine Eliot, son of George Eliot of Albury, thus effectively identifying this George as the son of John Eliot the elder of Stortford on the chart at the end of this part (see the Genealogical Summary in the next two parts).

²⁰ Guildhall of London, MS 10312, roll 94, membrane 47 and 47v, pertaining to Hadham Magna, translated from the Latin by Duncan Harrington, F.S.A., L.H.G. Bennet is a variant of Benedict.

TO THIS COURT is certified by the steward the presentee through the homage and is enrolled as follows Memorandum that the third day of May in the 22nd year [1580] of the reign of our Lady Elizabeth now queen etc. John Adams and Jane his wife and Benedict Elliott son of the same Jane came before the steward of the manor aforesaid in the absence of the court and Jane herself by the steward aforesaid then and there sole examined and confessed And surrendered into the hands of the lord by the hands of the said steward one croft of land called Lechitthilles containing by estimation three acres whether more or less parcel of the tenements of the lord just as lying within the demesne aforesaid, that is to say, between the lands lately Thomas Elliott by right of his wife on the southern side and the lands lately Robert Patener on the northern side, in respect of the western head abutting upon the queen's way there to which the same Jane was admitted for her life as in the free-bench of the same Jane after the death of Simon Elliott her certain husband as shown in the court with a view held there on Thursday next before hock day, that is to say the ninth day of April the fourth year [1562] of the reign of our Lady Elizabeth now queen etc. And that the same premises descend to Benedict by right of inheritance after the death of the said Simon his father as shown by the rolls of court with view upon the said fourth year wherefore at this court he was admitted etc. To the use and behoof of Thomas Grimesdiche esquire his heirs and assigns for ever Which certain Thomas Grymesdiche by William Langham senior his attorney came into this court and sought to be admitted in respect thereof tenant to which the lord by his steward granted in respect thereof possession to have and to hold to the same Thomas Grymesdiche and his heirs of the lord by the rod at the will of the lord according to the customs of the manor by the rents and services in respect thereof previously owed and of right accustomed And on that account estate and entry so in respect thereof being had gave the lord of a fine as shown in the headings is admitted in respect thereof tenant Margin: Fine 18d paid.

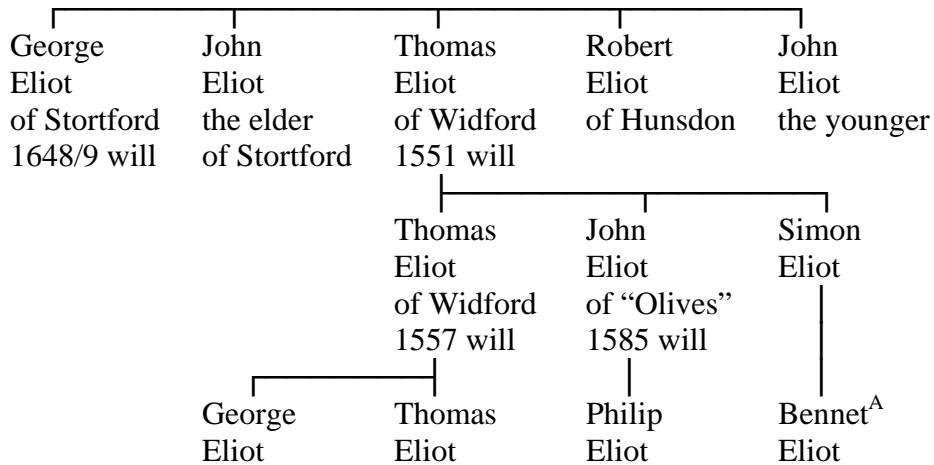
The Court Roll unequivocally identifies Bennet's parents as Simon Eliot, deceased by April 1562, and his widow Jane (_____) (Eliot) Adams, now wife of John Adams.^[21] The only Simon Eliot so far identified in any of the records examined for this family was the son of Thomas Eliot, the 1551 testator. Similarly, the only man named Bennet or Benedict Eliot found to date was Bennet Eliot of Nazeing, husband of Lettice (Alger) Eliot.

To have appeared before the court by 3 May 1580 Bennet would presumably have been at least age 21, consistent with his having been born by 1562 (as his father died in April of that year). While Bennet's only known marriage was in 1598 when he was at least in his late thirties, it is possible he had a prior marriage not yet discovered.

Now the coincidences previously noted between Bennet Eliot and Philip Eliot make sense — they were first cousins. It is very likely that, given his father's early death, Bennet's only surviving uncle, John Eliot "of Olives," would have

²¹ Bennet Eliot's mother, Jane (_____) (Eliot) Adams, was not Simon's first wife. The will of John Haynes of Much Hadham, dated 20 July 1551, names daughter "Cateren the wife of Simond Elyett" (Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 4], 2:896). The will also names wife Joanne, perhaps the "sister Joan Haynes," named in the 1548/9 will of George Eliot, as noted by Waters at 2:908.

played a significant part in his childhood and therefore Philip and Bennet would have known each other well.



(to be continued)

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ABRAHAM TOPPAN WAS NOT A YORKSHIRE MAN

Brandon Fradd

Abraham Toppan of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, emigrated to New England in 1637, aged 31, accompanied by his wife Susanna, aged 30, his children Peter and Elizabeth, and a servant, Anne Goodin, aged 18.^[1] An article in the *Register* in 1879,^[2] based on the work of the notorious Horatio Gates Somerby, identified him as Abraham Toppan, baptized at Calbridge, parish of Coverham, Yorkshire, on 10 April 1606, son of William Toppan of that parish. The article also claimed that the same William Toppan had a daughter Cecilia baptized on 27 February 1608 and a son Isaac buried on 7 January 1612. These appear to be fictitious entries as the surviving parish registers of Coverham do not begin until 1707.^[3] There are Bishop's Transcripts, but few exist before 1660 and none of these (including those for 1606/7) mentions anyone named Toppan, Tophan, or Topham.

The long distance between Coverham, Yorkshire, and Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (where Abraham Toppan was admitted freeman in 1627, having served an apprenticeship with Richard Elwyn),^[4] adds further suspicion to the identification. In the seventeenth century there were many occurrences of the name Toppan, Tophan, and Topham throughout Yorkshire, but also in Bedfordshire and Derbyshire. The latter two counties are much closer to Norfolk.

For several years I had done extensive research disproving the Yorkshire ancestry presented for Abraham Toppan in the 1879 article. I was surprised that no further research seemed to have been published. However, last year the new guide to published research for New England, 1980–2005,^[5] led me to the treatment of the same problem in John Brayton's 1993 book on the ancestry of the playwright Tennessee Williams.^[6] Brayton also pointed out the Coverham parish

¹ Charles Boardman Jewson, *Transcript of Three Registers of Passengers from Great Yarmouth to Holland and New England, 1637–1639*, Norfolk Record Society Publications, vol. 25 (London, 1954; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1964), 29. See also Peter Wilson Coldham, *The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607–1660* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987), 187. The marriage of Abraham Toppan and Susanna Taylor on 28 May 1632 at St. Michael at Plea, Norwich, was noted in Walter Goodwin Davis, *Massachusetts and Maine Families in the Ancestry of Walter Goodwin Davis (1885–1966)*, 3 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996), 1:83.

² “English Ancestry of the Toppan or Tappan Family of Newbury,” *Register* 33 (1879):66–68.

³ <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/Misc/CBW/NRY/Coverham.html>.

⁴ Jewson, *Three Registers of Passengers* [note 1], 29.

⁵ Martin E. Hollick, *New Englanders in the 1600s: A Guide to Genealogical Research Published Between 1980 and 2005* (Boston: NEHGS, 2006), 197.

⁶ John A. Brayton, *The Ancestry of Tennessee Williams* (Winston-Salem, N.C.: the author, 1993), 66, 329–36.

registers do not begin until 1707, and concluded that Somerby had presented a fictional pedigree for Abraham Toppan.

As often happens, two genealogists reach the same conclusions in different ways. Without repeating Brayton's material, here are brief analyses of some additional problems with the pedigree presented for Abraham Toppan:

- (1) William Toppan of Coverham, alleged father of Abraham, Cecilia, and Isaac, is stated in the 1879 article to have been the brother of Christopher Tophan of the City of York, whose 1625 will is briefly abstracted there. Although not stated specifically, the connection seems to hinge on the fact that Christopher Tophan's will mentions brother William Tophan and William's daughter Cicely and that Christopher stated in his will that he was born in the Parish of Calbridge, Coverham. However, this will, dated 15 December 1625, actually says "I give to either one of my said brother William's children that is to say to his two younger children the sum of ten pounds . . . I give to Cicilie Tophan my brother William's daughter at London if she be living five pounds and if she be dead then to her children to be equally divided amongst them."^[7]

The alleged parish register entries noted above show "Cicilie Tophan" had an older brother (Abraham) living in 1625, but Christopher Tophan's will indicates she had only younger siblings. Moreover, the alleged parish register entries show "Cicilie Tophan" born ca. 1608 and baptized 27 February 1608 — but Christopher Tophan's will suggests that by 1625 she was living in London perhaps with at least two children,^[8] which is unlikely.

- (2) It is clear from the will of Christopher Tophan and that of his brother Matthew Tophan, Alderman of the City of York, dated 26 February 1634/5, that they had brothers William, Godfrey, Edward, Thomas, and Simon.^[9] Mathew's will mentions his brother William and William's three daughters, but does not mention any sons of William. The pedigree in the 1879 article shows all these brothers as sons of Edward Topham of Aigelthorpe (in Coverham), apparently based on the 1612 visitation of Yorkshire, which shows, however, only two sons of Edward Topham of Aigelthorpe, namely, Henry and Edward.^[10] The 1665 visitation of Yorkshire again shows only

⁷ Will of Christopher Tophan, Prerogative Court of York, 1625, vol. 39, folio 300. This and all other wills were obtained by Ken Smallbone; the Prerogative Court of York wills are at the Borthwick Institute, York.

⁸ Perhaps Christopher Tophan did not remember her married name, or perhaps Cicilie was not married at the time but he wanted the bequest to go her future children.

⁹ Will of Matthew Tophan, Prerogative Court of York, 1635, vol. 42, folio 694.

¹⁰ Robert Glover, *The Visitation of Yorkshire, Made in the Years 1584/5 . . . [and] 1612 . . .*, Joseph Foster, ed. (London: the editor, 1875), 581, "Topham of Aigelthorpe."

Henry and Edward as sons of Edward Topham of Aigelthorpe.^[11] The will of Francis Topham, Esq., of Aigelthorpe, grandson and heir of Edward Topham, senior, dated 24 April 1669, states his desire to be buried in Coverham Church, but fails to mention any cousins of Calbridge or York.^[12]

- (3) A set of pedigrees compiled from Yorkshire visitations and other sources^[13] incorrectly shows Christopher and Matthew Tophan of Calbridge and York as sons of Thomas Topham of Calbridge, whose 1605 will mentions only four children: Francis, Christopher, Mathew, and Jane (and not William, Godfrey, Edward, Thomas, or Simon).^[14]

In conclusion, the identification of Abraham Toppan as a Yorkshire man is entirely without foundation and must be abandoned. His ancestry is currently unknown.

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¹¹ William Dugdale, *The Visitation of the County of Yorke, Began in A^o Dni 1665 and Finished A^o Dni 1666*, Publications of the Surtees Society, vol. 36 (Durham, 1859), 149, "Topham of Aigelthorpe."

¹² Will of Francis Topham, Prerogative Court of York, 1669, vol. 50, folio 245.

¹³ John William Walker, ed., *Yorkshire Pedigrees*, 3 vols., Publications of The Harleian Society, Visitation Series, vols. 94–96 (London, 1942–44), 3:387, "Topham."

¹⁴ Will of Thomas Topham, West Yorkshire Archives, RD/Ap1/92/138.

THE ENGLISH ORIGINS OF JEFFREY STAPLE OF WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Gail Staples

Jeffrey Staple, an early settler of Weymouth, was first mentioned when his daughter Martha was buried there on 17 February 1639/40.^[1] He next appeared on the list of landowners compiled between 1642 and 1644.^[2] Jeffrey was last mentioned as “late deceased” in March 1647 when an inventory of his goods was taken by Edward Bates and John Upham.^[3] But the most helpful document about Jeffrey was not made until 10 January 1658/9 when his widow, Margery Staple, sold to James Priest land bounded by Samuel Staple’s land.^[4]

Prior published research on the Staple family of Weymouth was inconclusive about the relationship between Jeffrey Staple and John Staple, both of Weymouth, but most agreed that Samuel Staple of Weymouth was the son of Jeffrey. And because brief mention of a Staple family had been found at Chard, Somersetshire, this had been suggested as the English home of these Staple men.^[5]

A search of the International Genealogical Index (IGI) for a connection in England between Samuel and Jeffrey resulted in the discovery of the following key record: Samuel Staple, son of Jeffrey, was baptized 6 April 1628 at Wendover, Buckinghamshire. Even though Jeffrey had four other children baptized at Wendover, as will be seen below, their baptisms are not in the IGI.

A search of parish registers for Wendover and surrounding parishes in Buckinghamshire (Halton, Aston Clinton, Weston Turville, and Great Missenden) as well as relevant probate jurisdictions^[6] uncovered records for the surname Staple sufficient to compile the following account of Jeffrey¹ Staple’s family.

¹ William B. Trask, “Early Records of Boston: Waymouth [sic],” *Register* 8 (1854):348–49 et seq. at 349.

² George Walter Chamberlain, *History of Weymouth*, 4 vols. (Boston: Weymouth Historical Society, 1923; vols. 3–4 reprinted as 1 vol. under the title *Families of Early Weymouth, Massachusetts* [Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984]), 1:194.

³ William B. Trask, “Abstracts of the Earliest Wills on Record, or on the Files in the County of Suffolk, Massachusetts,” *Register* 2 (1848):102–05 et seq. including 30 (1876):201–06 at 201.

⁴ *Suffolk Deeds*, 14 vols. (Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1880–1906), 3:356.

⁵ Chamberlain, *History of Weymouth* [note 2], 4:637–38 (no relationship shown among the three men; no place of origin); Laurence Carlton Staples, *A Staples Family: Ten Generations from John Staples of Weymouth . . .* (Washington, D.C.: the author, 1974), 5–7 (John and Jeffrey probably closely related); James Courtenay Staples, *Descendants of Jeffrey and John Staple of Weymouth, Massachusetts circa 1638* (Orlando, Fla.: the author, 1978), 31, 45 (all three closely related; Jeffrey and John perhaps from Chard); Ruby M. Ralston, *The Ancestry of Job Staples of Canterbury, Connecticut, and Butler County, Pennsylvania* (Apollo, Pa.: Closson Press, 1983), 59 (John from Chard); William Jessup Cleaver, *The Ancestry of Allen Grinnell Cleaver and Martha Irene Jessup* (Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1989), 820–21 (Jeffrey from Chard; Samuel his son). For a description of the Staples Collection at NEHGS and James Courtenay Staples, see *New England Ancestors* 8:1 (Winter 2007):53–54.

⁶ The Archdeaconry of Buckingham yielded no clearly relevant probate records.

1. ROBERT^A STAPLE, born say 1550, based on the estimated years of birth of his children. He died between 8 August 1601 and 2 November 1601, the date of his will and the date of proof, probably at Halton, Buckinghamshire. His wife, mentioned but not named in his will, died probably before 1604 when the burial records for Halton begin.^[7]

As Robert Staple of Halton, he made a will dated 8 August 1601, proved 2 November 1601 in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.^[8] He left his wife (unnamed) various household goods, made provisions for her support, and, if she did not marry, gave her the use of the house and instructed sons John and Jeffrey to pay her 20 shillings per year to be paid quarterly, with Jeffrey to pay the larger share. He left to son Richard 20 pounds to be paid at age 21. He left to daughter Margery 20 pounds to be paid at age 18 and various household goods. He left to son Thomas twenty sheep of the middle sort and 13 pounds, 6 shillings, and 8 pence to be delivered within three years. He left to son William 5 pounds, twenty sheep, and a bullock, and also a half-quarter each of barley and wheat to be paid within one year. Son Jeffrey was to inherit his lands in Wendover and to receive 20 pounds and twenty sheep along with the ones he already had, all to be paid within six years. To “John Staple my son John’s son” he left the great brass pot. To Andrew Welche and his wife he left 5 pounds and twenty sheep over two years along with one sheep for each of their children. To the poor of Halton he left quarters of wheat and of barley, and to the church of Halton he left 2 shillings, 6 pence. To Timothie Staple, son of William Staple, he left one ewe, and to Thomas Staple, son of John Staple, he left one ewe.^[9] To the poor of Aston Clinton he left two bushels each of wheat and barley. Son John was to be executor of the will and residual heir. Witnesses were Thomas Harper [rector of Halton], William Norwood, and John Staple.

Known children of Robert^A Staple, order unclear:

- 2 i. JOHN STAPLE, b. say 1572; m. JANE CHRISMAS.
- ii. ?DAUGHTER, b. say 1574; possibly m. ANDREW WELCHE, and had at least two children by 8 Aug. 1601, the date of Robert Staple’s will.
- 3 iii. JEFFREY¹ STAPLE, b. say 1576; m. MARGERY CHRISMAS.
- 4 iv. WILLIAM STAPLE, b. say 1578; m. _____.
- 5 v. THOMAS STAPLE, b. say 1580; m. _____.

⁷ Parish registers of Halton, Buckinghamshire, 1606–1887, but baptisms do not begin until 1663 [FHL 1,042,447 Items 12–19]; Archdeaconry transcripts for Halton, 1604–05 [FHL 1,999,324 Items 3–4]; 1629–30 [FHL 1,999,323 Item 3]; 1633–38 [FHL 1,999,324 Item 1].

⁸ Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 78 Woodhall.

⁹ Although the wording is not precise, it is probable that Timothie and Thomas Staple were grandsons of the testator. It seems more than a coincidence that Timothie and Thomas had fathers whose names were the same as two of Robert’s sons. Also, based on the bequests to Andrew Welche and his unnamed wife and children, it is possible that Andrew’s wife was a daughter of the testator. One sheep or one ewe is typical of a bequest to a grandchild.

- vi. RICHARD STAPLE, b. say 1582 (under 21 on 8 Aug. 1601, the date of his father's will); d. after 8 Aug. 1601.^[10]
- vii. MARGERY STAPLE, b. say 1585 (under 18 on 8 Aug. 1601, the date of her father's will). She possibly was the Margery Staple, servant, who was bur. 13 July 1606 in the adjoining parish of Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire.^[11]

2. JOHN STAPLE (*Robert*^A), born say 1572, probably in or near Halton, Buckinghamshire. He probably was the John Staple buried at Halton 21 April 1639; an inventory of his goods was taken 1 June 1639 with a total value of 56 pounds, 8 shillings.^[12] John Staple married before 8 August 1601 (when his father's will named "John Staple my son John's son"), **JANE CHRISMAS**. The will of John Christmas, yeoman, of Wendover, dated 2 July 1612,^[13] mentions sister Jane, wife of John Staple, and makes bequests to their children who reached the age of 21. The records for their children are limited, however, as baptisms for the parish of Halton do not begin until 1663.^[14]

Known children of John and Jane (Christmas) Staple:^[15]

- i. JOHN STAPLE, b. before 8 Aug. 1601; bur. Halton 16 June 1618 as son of John Staple.
- ii. THOMAS STAPLE (probable), b. before 8 Aug. 1601; probably the Thomas Staple who m. Aston Clinton, Bucks, 29 June 1624 SARAH KINGMAN.^[16] Perhaps he was the Thomas Staple senior bur. Halton 24 Jan. 1667/8. Sarah Staple, widow of Thomas Staple senior, was bur. there 28 Jan. 1668/9.

¹⁰ Richard Staple may have married since Jane Staple, daughter of Richard Staple, was buried at Halton 30 August 1637.

¹¹ Bishop's Transcripts for Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire, 1575–1837 [FHL 1,999,818 Items 1–2].

¹² Original wills and administrations, 1605–1856, Peculiar Court of Monks Risborough, Buckinghamshire, alphabetically arranged by surname then by date, L–W [FHL 0,173,636].

¹³ John Christmas, yeoman, of Wendover, left a will dated 2 July 1612, proved 21 July 1612, in which he mentioned wife Sara, son Thomas (underage), daughter Elizabeth (under 18), and an unborn child. He left sister Jane, wife of John Staple, 40 shillings, and their children who reached the age of 21, 10 shillings. He left sister Margery, wife of Jeffrey Staple, 20 shillings, and forgave her debt to him. He left one ewe sheep to each of Margery's two children. He mentioned brother Timothy Christmas and Timothy's daughter, Sara Christmas (under 14); uncle Robert Christmas and his children (under 21); uncle William Christmas; brother-in-law William Wealy (under 21); and cousin Ales Christmas. He also mentioned Thomas Harper, parson of Halton; the church of Halton; and the poor of Halton. Wife Sara was to be sole executrix (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 62 Fenner.

¹⁴ The Archdeaconry transcripts for Halton do include baptisms for some or all of various years prior to 1663; see note 7.

¹⁵ Three other possible children were married at Halton: James Dagnall and *Sibill Staple*, 25 April 1621; *Francis Staple* and Elizabeth Childe, 22 November 1636; and *Michaell Staple* and Elizabeth Longe, 8 November 1633, who had children *Ann Staple*, baptized at Halton 13 July 1634 as daughter of Michael Staple, and *Elizabeth Staple*, baptized there 19 February 1636 as daughter of Michael Staple. The only other unaccounted for Staple entry in the Halton registers in this era was an unnamed daughter of Robert Staple of "Chesher," baptized 3 October 1630.

¹⁶ Parish registers of Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, 1560–1906 [FHL 1,967,035].

Children of Thomas and Sarah (Kingman) Staple, both baptized at Halton:

1. *Thomas Staple*, bp. 20 Oct. 1629 as son of Thomas Staple.
2. *Ann Staple*, bp. 6 Oct. 1637 as daughter of Thomas Staple.
- iii. JANE STAPLE, bur. Halton 13 May 1618 as daughter of John Staple.

3. JEFFREY¹ STAPLE (*Robert^A*), born say 1576, probably in or near Halton. He died in early 1647, presumably at Weymouth, Massachusetts, since an inventory of his goods was taken at Weymouth “first month 1647” [March 1647]. He married at Halton 4 May 1607, **MARGERY CHRISMAS**, born say 1585, died after 14 December 1663, presumably at Weymouth, Massachusetts when she was last mentioned as “widow Staples” in the land division of that year.^[17] The will of John Chrismas, yeoman, of Wendover, dated 2 July 1612 (cited above), mentions sister Margery, wife of Jeffrey Staple. Thus, she was the sister of Jane Chrismas who married John Staple, brother of Jeffrey Staple.

The last record found in Buckinghamshire for Jeffrey¹ Staple was in 1632; Thomas Martin of Halton made a will dated 18 July 1632, in which he left 6 pounds to Jeffrey Staple, his godson.^[18] Jeffrey and Margery (Chrismas) Staple had settled at Weymouth by 17 February 1639/40 when their daughter Martha was buried there.

Known children of Jeffrey¹ Staple, all but Martha baptized at Wendover as children of Jeffrey Staple, no mother named:^[19]

- i. JOHN² STAPLE, bp. Aug. 1608; d. Dorchester, Mass., 4 July 1683; m. _____.^[20]
He was in Weymouth by 27 Nov. 1639 when a daughter Rebecca was born there.^[21] He left a will dated 18 March 1681/2, proved 2 Aug. 1683.^[22]
- ii. JEFFREY STAPLE, bp. 2 Dec. 1610; bur. Wendover 5 April 1611 as son of Jeffrey Staple.
- iii. THOMAS STAPLE, bp. 5 April 1612. Either he or his first cousin, Thomas Staple, bp. 1 Jan. 1614/5 (4.iv, below), probably was the Thomas Staple(s) who settled at Fairfield, Conn., in 1639 and m. MARY _____.^[23] Thomas Staples of

¹⁷ Chamberlain, *History of Weymouth* [note 2], 1:200.

¹⁸ Wills and administrations, Peculiar Court of Monks Risborough, Buckinghamshire [note 12], L–W [FHL 0,173,636].

¹⁹ Parish registers of Wendover, Buckinghamshire, 1626–1886 [FHL 0,919,257]; Bishop’s transcripts for Wendover, 1576, 1600, 1602, 1604–08, 1610–18, 1620, 1621–23 [damaged], 1624, 1626 et seq. [FHL 1,999,497 Item 6].

²⁰ Mrs. John E. Barclay, “The Account Book of Benjamin Staples, Cordwainer, of Braintree, Mass.,” *Register* 116 (1962):18–21 at 18.

²¹ “Early Records of Boston: Weymouth [*sic*]” [note 1], *Register* 8:349.

²² Suffolk County Probate, 6:425; abstracted in Barclay, “Account Book of Benjamin Staples” [note 20], *Register* 116:18, and Chamberlain, *History of Weymouth* [note 2], 4:637.

²³ Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, 3 vols. in 4 (New Haven, Conn.: Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor, 1930–32; reprint Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976), 1:579–80. A DNA study shows that descendants of Jeffrey¹ Staple, John² Staple [treated as a separate immigrant], and Thomas Staple of Fairfield have the same male line (http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~staples/settlers_1600s.htm, viewed on 6 March 2007).

Fairfield left a will dated 9 April 1688, proved at Fairfield 22 Sept. 1688, and recorded at Boston.^[24]

- iv. AGNES STAPLE, bp. 28 Jan. 1615[/6?].
- v. ELIZABETH STAPLE, bp. 20 April 1617.
- vi. MARTHA STAPLE, bur. Weymouth 17 Feb. 1639/40 as daughter of Jeffrey Staple.
- vii. SAMUEL² STAPLE, bp. 6 April 1628; m. Braintree, Mass., 30 Aug. 1652 MARY COLES.^[25]

4. WILLIAM STAPLE (*Robert*^A), born say 1578, probably in or near Halton. He was married before 29 October 1603 (when his oldest daughter was baptized), and probably before 8 August 1601 (when his father's will named Timothy Staple, son of William Staple). No burial for William Staple or his wife has been found in the parish registers of Aston Clinton where his children were baptized.

Known children of William Staple, all but the oldest baptized at Aston Clinton as children of William Staple, no mother named:

- i. TIMOTHY STAPLE (probable), b. before 8 Aug. 1601; perhaps the Timothy Staple who m. Great Missenden, Bucks, 14 Jan. 1629[/30?] MARY WINCH,^[26] and/or perhaps the Timothy Staple who m. [second?] Wendover 14 Sept. 1640 HANNAH GREYTHORNE. The wife of Timothy Staple was bur. Aston Clinton 20 Oct. 1643.

Children of Timothy and Mary (Winch) Staple, both baptized at Aston Clinton:

- 1. *Hester Staple*, bp. 6 Jan. 1630/1 as daughter of Timothy Staple.
- 2. *Mary Staple*, bp. 16 Dec. 1633 as daughter of Timothy and Mary Staple.

²⁴ Suffolk County Probate, 10:422–24. During the administration of Sir Edmund Andros, 1686–1689, estates probated in New England and New York valued over fifty pounds were supposed to be recorded in Boston. See Winifred Lovering Holman and Mary Lovering Holman, "Suffolk County Probate (1686–1692)," *The American Genealogist* 12 (1935-36):175–84, 222–34; 13 (1936-37):106; 14 (1937-38):34–45.

²⁵ The bride is shown as "Mary Boles" in Samuel A. Bates, "Braintree Records," *Register* 36 (1882):45–51 et seq., at 51. But four years later, in his *Records of the Town of Braintree, 1640–1793* (Randolph, Mass.: D. H. Huxford, 1886), at 629, Bates reported *two* marriages for Samuel Staple: to Mary Cole in 1644 and to Mary Boles on 30 August 1652. However, a review of the original Braintree record and a comparison of the capital letters on the same page, show that there was only one marriage, namely, to Mary Coles on 30 6th month [August] 1652. Underneath the entry is "1644" in a different handwriting, and underneath that in still a different handwriting is "Samuel Staple & Mary Cole." The reason for "1644" is unclear, but it is evident that the last entry was simply a repetition or clarification of the 1652 marriage entry.

Mary Coles may have been related to Clement Cole who was in Braintree in 1639, "possibly his widow or a daughter" (Waldo Chamberlain Sprague, *Genealogies of the Families of Braintree, Massachusetts, 1640–1850 . . .*, CD-ROM [Boston: NEHGS, 2001], transcribed from the manuscript in the R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Dept. of NEHGS: "Cole, Clement"). Although Clement Cole was the right age to have been the father of Mary (Coles) Staple, he is shown without a family in Robert Charles Anderson, George Freeman Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume II C–F* (Boston: NEHGS, 2001), 152–53.

²⁶ Bishop's transcripts for Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, 1575–1702 [FHL 0,088,593].

Child of Timothy and Hannah (Greythorne) Staple:

3. *Timothy Staple*, bp. Wendover 23 Dec. 1641 as son of Timothy Staple.
- ii. ANN STAPLE, bp. 29 Oct. 1603.
- iii. DANIEL STAPLE, bp. 7 May 1609; bur. Aston Clinton 1 Sept. 1618 as son of William Staple.
- iv. THOMAS STAPLE, bp. 1 Jan. 1614/5. Either he or his first cousin, Thomas Staple, bp. 5 April 1612 (3.iii, above), probably was the Thomas Staple(s) who settled at Fairfield, Conn., in 1639. See Thomas Staple (3.iii, above) for further information on this immigrant.
- v. AGNES STAPLE, bur. 9 Sept. 1626 as daughter of William Staple.

5. THOMAS STAPLE (*Robert*^A), born say 1580, probably in or near Halton. He was married before 1 December 1605 when his daughter was baptized.

Known child of Thomas Staple:

- i. ELIZABETH STAPLE, bp. Halton 1 Dec. 1605 as daughter of Thomas Staple.^[27]
Thomas Harper, rector of Halton, mentioned in his will dated 30 Aug. 1629 as Elizabeth Staple, servant.^[28]

Gail Staples (gstaples@localnet.com) resides at 48 Ellis Road, Canton, New York 13617. Her husband, *Gary Staples*, is a descendant of Samuel² Staple.

²⁷ Non-testamentary papers of the courts of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, Box 29 [FHL 0,173,658]. Located in these papers is a transcript of Halton baptisms, marriages, and burials for the year 1605 only.

²⁸ Wills and administrations, Peculiar Court of Monks Risborough [note 12], B–H [FHL 0,173,634].

THE ENGLISH ANCESTRY OF THOMAS BURTON OF PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND, SIGNER OF THE REMONSTRANCE OF 1646

Peter Ray

In the spring of 1646, seven New Englanders fired an early salvo in the struggle to define church-state relations in the colonies. Led by physician Robert Child, they presented the Massachusetts General Court with a “Remonstrance and Humble Petition,” complaining that they were ruled by arbitrary government, denied the rights of Englishmen, and disenfranchised because they did not belong to the established Puritan churches. The Remonstrance prompted a lengthy, carefully reasoned reply by the Court, which then added this attempt to discredit the signers with ridicule:^[1]

The first . . . is a Paduan Doctor . . . who never payd penny to any publick charge . . . A second is a church member, but will be no freeman; he likes better to be eased of that trouble and charge. A third is a freeman, but no member of any church, and the reason hath beene his professed affection to the hierarchie. A fourth is a clarke of the prothonotaries office, a sojourner also, and of no visible estate in the country . . . A fifth is a young merchant, little acquainted with commonwealth affaires . . . A sixth was taken up by accident, being none of this jurisdiction . . . The seventh is an ould grocer of London, whose forgetfulnes of the lawes and customes of that citty, and unmindfulnes of his dutie to the government under which he now lives and prospers, we may impute to his age and some other infirmaries.

There is no controversy about the identity of five of the people described in this passage,^[2] but most modern historians have mistakenly identified Thomas Burton of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, as the “clarke of the prothonotaries office” and John Dand as the grocer.^[3] Records show that in fact Dand was the clerk,^[4] and Burton, though only 58 at the time, was the “ould grocer of London.”^[5]

[Editorial note: Long after this article had been submitted, accepted, and scheduled for publication in this issue, another author, Gail A. Howell, M.D. (2606 Hillview Avenue, Dayton, OH 45419-1615; *TheArbella@aol.com*), submitted a comparable article. Additions to the present article from Dr. Howell’s article are so identified. She had included much more detail from the records of the Grocers’ Company and the Drapers’ Company; this detail has not been added. The editors thank both Mr. Ray and Dr. Howell for their cooperation.]

¹ Thomas Hutchinson, *A Collection of Original Papers Relative to the History of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay* (Boston: Thomas and John Fleet, 1769), 211–12.

² They are (1) Dr. Robert Child, (2) Thomas Fowle, (3) Samuel Maverick, (5) David Yale, and (6) John Smith.

³ Francis J. Bremer, *John Winthrop: America’s Forgotten Founding Father* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 366; Robert E. Wall, *Massachusetts Bay: The Crucial Decade, 1640–1650* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1972), 181, 237–38; Samuel E. Morison, *Builders of the Bay Colony* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1958), 250–51. See also Richard S. Dunn et al., ed., *The Journal of John Winthrop, 1630–1649* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1996),

Records in America

Thomas Burton has no lack of family connections in New England. His daughter Martha married Gov. William Brenton of Rhode Island, and his grandson Stephen Burton married first the Brentons' daughter Abigail, and second Elizabeth, daughter of Gov. Josiah Winslow of Plymouth Colony.^[6] Yet there are few published records of Thomas himself in the colonies. We do know that he was admitted an inhabitant of Newport, Rhode Island, on or after 20 May

625n: "Thomas Burton, a lawyer, came to Hingham, Mass., about 1639 . . . and like Child he seems to have been a Presbyterian"; George Lyman Kittredge, "Dr. Robert Child the Remonstrant," *Publications of The Colonial Society of Massachusetts* 21 (1919):1–145 at 24: "He [Thomas Burton] lived at Hingham . . . Since Burton had been prothonotary's clerk . . ."; Herbert L. Osgood, *The American Colonies in the Seventeenth Century* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1904), 1:257: "The leaders among them were . . . John Dand, who was formerly a grocer of London." James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1860–62; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1965), correctly shows "Burton . . . Thomas . . . 'an old grocer of London'," (1:314), and "Dand, John, Boston 1641, clk. in the prothonotary's office (but I hear not where)" (2:5). Cf. Charles Henry Pope, *The Pioneers of Massachusetts* (Boston: the author, 1900; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1981), 83, who follows Savage on Burton but does not say Dand was the clerk.

⁴ A search of the records of the Grocers' Company in London found no grocer of the name "John Dand." However, the following record was found in the *Journal of the House of Lords*, 4:1629–42 (1802), 139 (22 Jan. 1640/1): "Upon reading the Petition of divers Officers, Clerks, and late Clerks, in His Majesty's Court of Common Pleas; shewing, 'That, by the Laws of this Realm, the Offices of Prothonotaries . . . are not grantable by Letters Patents . . . yet David Ramsey, Esquire, and divers other Persons . . . have lately obtained from His Majesty several Letters Patents . . . to the great Disparagement of able Clerks, and to the Prejudice of the Commonwealth.' Hereupon it was Ordered, by the House, That the said Petitioners shall appear here before this House upon Tuesday next, being the 26th Day of this Instant January, at which Time and Place David Ramsey . . . John Dand . . . shall appear, and produce their several Patents, under the Great Seal of England, of any Office granted them in the Court of Common Pleas." Since Dand showed up in Boston in 1641, he must have left England soon after receiving the summons to appear with his patent. Note incidentally that Hutchinson's record calls the clerk who signed the Remonstrance "a sojourner" and that Edward Winslow, in *New England's Salamander* (London: Richard Cotes, 1647), 8, says John Dand "hath lived in Boston as a sojourner since these warres in another mans house at board-hire."

⁵ Although I have found no source disputing the claim that Thomas Burton of Portsmouth was the Thomas Burton who signed the Remonstrance, we have no direct proof and cannot be certain of this. We do know, however, that both Thomas Burtons were grocers of London; see notes 2 and 4 identifying all the signers except Burton and thus leaving him as the grocer, and note 15, citing William Brenton's deed that describes Thomas Burton as a grocer of London. The records of the Grocers' Company list only one man of that name during the period in question (Index of Freeman, Grocers' Company [FHL 1,850,672]).

⁶ Robert S. Wakefield, "Additions and Corrections to Austin's Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island: William Brenton & the Burton Family," *The American Genealogist* 59 (1983):84–89; Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 2:218–24. See also Susan A. Smith, "Stephen Burton of Bristol, R. I., and Some of His Descendants," *Register* 60 (1906):28–30.

1638.^[7] On 7 April 1641 he bought land in Portsmouth from John More,^[8] and in 1643 he was mentioned in Portsmouth town records.^[9] In 1648 “mr burtons ferrie” was mentioned as a reference point.^[10] At some time Portsmouth granted him four acres abutting the town common.^[11] Although Savage, Pope, the history of Hingham, Massachusetts, and other sources claim that Thomas Burton moved to Hingham, married Margaret Otis and fathered several more children, it was really Edward Burton of Charlestown who did all this, as Robert Charles Anderson has pointed out.^[12] Nevertheless, Thomas Burton was apparently living in or near Boston when he signed the Remonstrance, for Gov. Winthrop describes his reaction to being charged with sedition and fined £30 in November 1646.^[13]

⁷ John R. Bartlett, ed.; *Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England*, 10 vols. (Providence: A. C. Greene & Brothers, 1856–65), 1:92. A Thomas Burton, perhaps our Thomas, witnessed deeds for Thomas Lechford in Boston 11 May 1639 and 20 January 1639/40, and later in 1640 Lechford “Payed Mr. Burton . . . for malt, cheese and irons (Edward Everett Hale, Jr., ed., *Note-Book Kept by Thomas Lechford, Esq., Lawyer, in Boston, Massachusetts Bay, from June 27, 1638 to July 29, 1641* [Cambridge, Mass.: J. Wilson & Son, 1885; repr. Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1988], 231, 235, 237; courtesy of Gail A. Howell).

⁸ Jane Fletcher Fiske, “The Portsmouth Scrap Book,” *Rhode Island Roots* 9 (1983):33–36, 57–60, at 60.

⁹ Portsmouth Town Records, 1:26 [FHL 0,945,382]; parts of the town records are badly damaged so there may have been other references to him (courtesy of Gail A. Howell).

¹⁰ Amos Perry and Clarence Saunders Brigham., ed., *The Early Records of the Town of Portsmouth* (Providence, R.I.: E. L. Freeman & Sons, 1901), 38.

¹¹ In a deed dated 24 July 1671, Stephen Burton “eldest son of Stephen Burton of the city of London, merchant, sonn and heire unto the deceased Mr. Thomas Burton late of the Town of Portsmouth on Rhode Island . . . by virtue of due right to me given and derived from my aforesaid father Stephen Burton by deed and gift under his hand and seal of all the lands formerly belonging unto my aforesaid grandfather Thomas Burton in New England, and for and in consideration of the full and just sum of three pounds five shillings New England silver” sells to Francis Brayton, Sr., of Portsmouth four acres “given and granted unto him by the freeman of the aforesaid town of Portsmouth . . . within the said Towne on the hill side and over against the comon pound being butted and bounded North East, and South by the high-way and Comon, and westersly [*sic*] by the land now in the possession of John Archer.” This deed is at the Rhode Island State Archives; an abstract was published in *Rhode Island Land Evidences, Vol. I, 1648–1696, Abstracts* (Providence, R.I.: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1921), 52, and was included in Wakefield, “William Brenton & the Burton Family” [note 6], *The American Genealogist* 59:85. Note that the deed calls Thomas Burton “deceased” but implies that his son Stephen was still alive in London. This is confirmed by a deed dated 28 January 1672 [either 1671/2 or 1672/3] from “Stephen Burton the Elder of London merchant sonne and heir of Thomas Burton Late of the Town of Portsmouth in Rhode Island in America deceased and Stephen Burton the younger of London merchant sonne and heire apparent of the said Stephen Burton the Elder” to Joseph Nicholson of Newport (Portsmouth Deeds, 1:173–76; courtesy of Gail A. Howell).

¹² Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 6], 1:283–85. Cf. Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary* [note 3], 1:314, Pope, *Pioneers of Massachusetts* [note 3], 83, George Lincoln, *History of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts*, 3 vols. in 4 (Hingham, Mass.: the town, 1893), 2:112.

¹³ Dunn, *Journal of John Winthrop, 1630–1649* [note 3], 666n, 680. The passage continues, “It is observeable that this man had gathered some providences about suche as were against them, as that Mr. Winslowes horse died, as he came ridinge to Boston: that his brother’s sone (a child of 8: years olde) had killed his owne sister (being 10: years of age) with his father’s peece &c. & his great trouble was, least this providence which now befel him, should be imputed to their cause.”

Mr Burton, one of the Petitioners, beinge in Towne meetinge, when the Court Declaration was read, was muche moved, and spake in highe language, and would needes have a Copye of it, which so soone as he had, he went with it (as was undoubtedly believed) to Dr Child, & in the waye fell downe, & laye there in the Colde neer half an howre, till Company was gotten to carrye him home in a Chayre, & after he continued in great payne, & lame diverse monthes.

The Remonstrance signers prepared to appeal their case to London, but Dr. Child was arrested and two petitions to Parliament were found in a search of John Dand's study. New charges were brought, the signers were imprisoned, and additional fines were imposed in June 1647, with Thomas Burton's set at £100,^[14] a substantial sum. Perhaps dismayed at the outcome of the case, Thomas Burton seems to have retired to Strawberry Bank (now Portsmouth, New Hampshire) and died within a few years. This record, dated 4 January 1650/1, can be found in the first volume of Suffolk Deeds.^[15]

W^m Brenton of Boston merch^t granted unto Richard Cutt mariner a certaine house at Strawberry banck wth eight Acres of upland as it is now fenced in & three Acres of marsh w^{ch} formerly was the possession of Tho: Beard and afterward sould by Clement Campion to Tho: Burton of London grocer & this was by an absolute deed of sale wth warrantie against all men & especially the heires of the s^d Tho: Burton. W^{ch} deed was dat. 4 (11) 1650. Wm Brenton & a seale.

Records in England

There were Burtons in the parish of Fulham, a suburb of London, as early as 1443 when Robert Burton made his will, and 1444 when administration on the estate of Henry Burton was granted.^[16] In 1532 a Robert Burton of Fulham left a bequest of "vii acres at Northend" to "Henry, Richard Burton's son" (presumably Robert's grandson) when he reached the age of twenty-two.^[17] This may be the Henry Burton (grandfather of Thomas of Portsmouth) who was residual legatee and executor of his sister Alice's will in 1573,^[18] and whose own will, dated 15

¹⁴ Ibid., 670n. See the discussion of the Remonstrance in Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs, *Seventeenth Century Town Records of Scituate, Massachusetts*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1997–2001), 3:36–37 (courtesy of Gail A. Howell).

¹⁵ *Suffolk Deeds*, 14 vols. (Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1880–1906), 1:132.

¹⁶ Commissary Court of London, Calendar to register copy wills and administrations, 1374–1603 [FHL 0,094,082], 34.

¹⁷ Will of Robert Burton, dated 1532 and proved 5 February 1532/3 (Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 10:201–03 [FHL 0,094,096]). Robert's widow Alice Burton, in her will dated 8 January 1533 and proved 18 March 1533, made a bequest to "Richard Burton's children" but does not name them (Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 10:225). This Richard may be the Richard Burton, husbandman of Fulham, whose will, dated 5 June 1532, and proved 14 June 1532, bequeathed all his goods to his wife Agnes, making her sole executrix (Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 10:186).

¹⁸ The will of Alice Burton, "mayde of the parish of Fulham in the county of Middlesex," dated 5 June 1573 and proved 24 May 24 1575, names her brother Henry Burton, her sister-in-law

July 1588 and proved in the Commissary Court of London 11 December 1592, reads in part:^[19]

I Henrye Burton of Fulham in the Countye of Middlesex yeoman . . . bequeath to Richard Burton the sonne of Stephan Burton my sonne the some of tenn pounds of Lawfull money of England to be paide unto him at his full age of xxi years or at the death of my wife whichsoever shall first happen Item I will and bequeath unto Mary Dogwell my daughter fyve poundes over and above foure pounds which I have promised to paie for her husbände to my sonne Stephen Item I doe give and bequeath to Judith Brathertonne my daughter one of my best featherbeds as a remembrance of my good affection towards her; the residue of all my goodes moveable and unmoveable my debts paied and legacies performed I gyve and bequeath to Elizabeth my wife whom I make ~~and~~ my sole Executrix.

Henry's widow Elizabeth made her will 26 November 1599, proved 21 October 1601, making bequests to her sons Richard and James Burton and her daughter Mary Dogwell, appointing Richard sole executor and making her son Stephen Burton overseer.^[20]

This Stephen Burton, father of Thomas of Portsmouth, married at Ware, Hertfordshire, 12 August 1582, Mary Swinsted, daughter of Richard Swinsted.^[21] Richard Swinsted of Ware left a will dated 30 June 1597, proved in the Commissary Court of London for Essex and Hertford 30 September 1597. In the will he made bequests to his wife Alyce; his sons Thomas and John; his daughter Ellen; Stephen and Thomas Burton, the sons of his son-in-law Stephen Burton; and three children of his son-in-law John Cason. "My well beloved sons-in-law Stephen Burton Citizen and grocer of London, and John Cason of Ware Taylor" were to be overseers of the will.^[22] Richard Swinsted was buried at Ware 29 July 1597, and his widow Alice was buried there 13 March 1599/1600.^[23]

Stephen was listed in the London Subsidy Roll of 1582 in the parish of St. Bartholomew (by the) Exchange, Broad Street ward, as owing three shillings on goods of three pounds.^[24] On 8 April 1582, he first appeared in the Vestry Minute Book of St. Bartholomew Exchange, assessed at two shillings (the highest assessment was five shillings and the lowest two pence), and afterwards he was frequently mentioned in the vestry minutes as collector/overseer for the poor (1590–1591, 1607), constable (1592–1593), auditor of accounts (1598), assessor

Elizabeth Burton, and Henry's children Mary, Judith and Stephen (Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 16:213 [FHL 0,094,099]).

¹⁹ Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 17:441 [FHL 0,094,100]. Note that son James and daughter Katherine are not mentioned.

²⁰ Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 19:235 [FHL 0,094,102]).

²¹ Parish registers of Ware, Hertfordshire [FHL 0,991,326].

²² Commissary Court of London for Essex and Hertford original wills, Box S, 1587–1597 [FHL 0,094,394].

²³ Both burials are from the parish registers of Ware [note 21].

²⁴ R. G. Lang; *Two Tudor Subsidy Assessment Rolls for the City of London* (London: London Record Society, 1993), 170.

(1608), and an assessed member of the parish (1582–1609).^[25] In the Subsidy Roll of 1599 Stephen Burton was again listed in the “Broadstreete warde” of St. Bartholomew, assessed at ten pounds.^[26] His home was on Bartholomew Lane, one house from the corner of Lothbury Street, where the Bank of England now stands.^[27]

The records of the Grocers’ Company in London contain the following entries:^[28]

1580, Stephen Burton [admitted a freeman of the company].

[24 August 1604] Assessment of 1275 . . . Stephen Burton [£]6/13/4.

[22 January 1605] Persons of the yeomanry as shulde be added unto the olde livery . . . Stephen Burton.

[23 July 1613] Several executors of Stephen Burton grocer deceased [and others] . . . shall have paid to them by Master Wardens the several corne moneys . . . lent for provision of corne wth this company in their life tymes.

“Stephen Burton, Citizen & Grocer of London” signed a deed dated 3 December 1612 with [his brother-in-law] Richard Dogwell of Fulham.^[29] He and his eldest son Stephen were recorded in the Visitation of London 1633–1635, as follows:^[30]

Burton
Broad Street
Stephen Burton, London grocer = Mary, da. of Richard Swinsted of Ware, Hertfordshire
└──────────┘
Stephen Burton, London merchant = Martha, da. of Geffrey Prescott of London

²⁵ Edwin Freshfield, ed., *The Vestry Minute Books of the Parish of St. Bartholomew Exchange in the City of London, 1567–1676* (London: Rixon and Arnold, 1890), 1:13, 22, 26, 42, 54, 63, xlvii, *et passim*.

²⁶ London Subsidy Roll for 1599, The National Archives, E179/146/390b.

²⁷ Freshfield, *Vestry Minute Books* [note 25], 1:map.

²⁸ Index of Freemen, Grocers’ Company [note 5]; Court Minute Books, 1602–1661, Grocers’ Company, 2:357, 432, 770; 3:169 [FHL 1,850,632].

²⁹ Deed at the London Metropolitan Archives, London [ref. BRA203/127]. Citizenship (freedom) of the City of London was open to those who had obtained the freedom of a livery company, whether or not they actually followed the occupation of that company. Both the freedom of a livery company and the freedom of the City of London were required if one wished to become a liveryman of a company (Vivienne E. Aldous, *My Ancestors Were Freemen of the City of London* [London: Society of Genealogists, 1999], 4, 8–10).

³⁰ *The Visitation of London, Anno Domini 1633, 1634, and 1635 . . .*, 2 vols., Publications of The Harleian Society, Visitation Series, vols. 15 and 17 (London, 1880–83), 1:128. See also Percival Boyd, “Pedigrees with Index of London Citizens, abt. 1600–1800,” Stephen Burton, index # 9186 [FHL 0,094,549]; courtesy of Gail A. Howell.

In the visitation a quartered coat of arms is shown, with the claimed Burton arms being “argent, a bend wavy sable,” apparently appropriated from the Burton family of Kinsley, Yorkshire (J. W. Papworth, *An Alphabetical Dictionary of Coats of Arms Belonging to Families in Great Britain and Ireland* [London: T. Richards, 1858–74; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1965], 184; courtesy of Gail A. Howell).

The baptisms of Stephen Burton Sr.'s children, and the deaths of his wife and son Richard are found in the parish registers of St. Bartholomew Exchange.^[31]

Stephen Burton sonne of Stephen Burton was christened [19 June] anno 1583
 Richard Burton sonne of Stephen Burton was christened [20 May] 1585
 Thomas Burton sonne of Stephen Burton grocer was christened [26 May 1588]
 Henry Burton sonne of Stephen Burton christened [11 October] ano 1591
 Richard Burton sonne of Stephen Burton buried the 21 of January [1592]
 Mary Burton daughter of Stephen Burton grocer christened [12 January] 1594
 Mary Burton wife of Stephen Burton was buried the 28th of September 1604

Stephen Burton Jr. married at St. Vedast Foster Lane, London, 14 February 1614, Martha Prescott.^[32] He lived across from St. Bartholomew Church, and appeared frequently in the Vestry Minute Books from 1613 to 1643.^[33] He was made a freeman of the Drapers' Company in 1611,^[34] and was probably the "Mr. Stephen Burton" who in 1656 gave half an acre of land toward the maintenance of the minister of the chapel in the Hammersmith section of Fulham.^[35] The will of "Stephen Burton of London merchant and now of Northawe in the county of Hertford," dated 25 July 1657 and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 23 October 1657,^[36] mentions his brother Henry and several members of the Prescott family, and appoints his nephew Stephen Burton [son of Thomas of Portsmouth] an executor of the will.

Three years after the death of Mary (Swinstead) Burton, her widower married again, as recorded in the parish registers of St. Clement Eastcheap.^[37]

[1607] Stephen Burton Grocer of the parish of St. Bartholomew behind the Exchange, and Ellen Wodder widdow of this parish married the seventh of September by license out of the faculties, Anno ut supra.

In the last years of his life Stephen appears to have turned over his grocery business to son Thomas and returned to Fulham. His will, dated 10 April 1613 and proved in the Commissary Court of London 20 May 1613, reads in part:^[38]

I Stephen Burton of the parish of Fulham & County of Middlesex, gent . . . bequeath unto Ellen Burton my loving wife one thousand pounds of currant English money . . . My sonn Thomas Burton shall procure of the lord of the manor of Fulham within eight months next after my decease two severall licenses for the letting &

³¹ Parish registers of St. Bartholomew Exchange [FHL 0,374,423].

³² Parish registers of St. Vedast Foster Lane, London [FHL 0,845,240].

³³ Freshfield, *Vestry Minute Books* [note 25], 1:68, 93, 130, xxi, *et passim*.

³⁴ Percival Boyd, *Roll of the Drapers' Company of London* (Croyden, England: J. A. Gordon, 1934), 32.

³⁵ Thomas Faulkner, *An Historical and Topographical Account of Fulham, Including the Hamlet of Hammersmith* (London: T. Egerton, 1813). Hammersmith had its own church beginning in 1629; it became a parish in 1834.

³⁶ Prerogative Court of Canterbury registered wills, The National Archives, PROB 11/268 [image ref. 434].

³⁷ Parish registers of St. Clement Eastcheap, London [FHL 0,396,187].

³⁸ Commissary Court of London register copy wills, 22:162 [FHL 0,094,104].

leasing of my two severall cottages or tenements in Hamersmith unto my said wife, one of them being the cottage or ten[emen]t wherein I now dwell & the other the cottage or ten[emen]t wherein Edward Madson now dwelleth . . . for such a terme & so many years as I have yet to come & unexpired in my house in London, standing & being in the parish of St. Bartholomew near the Exchange, she paying unto my said sonne one penny every yeare for the same . . . [but] if my said sonne Thomas Burton shall refuse to lease as aforesaid then my will is that my said wife shall have my said house in Bartholomew Lane aforesaid wherein my said sonne & my late servant William Bolton doe now inhabite . . . My wife Ellen Burton shall have [household goods] . . . and unto my well beloved wife [and] my daughter Mary Burton four pounds to buy a mourning gown withall against my funeral day . . . unto my sister Katherine Pickemere four pounds to buy her a gown . . . unto my brother Peter Tarbanke & my brother Richard Burton foure pounds . . . the poore of the parish of St. Bartholomew near the Exchange London forty shillings . . . the poore of the parish of Fulham three pounds . . . my godson Nehemiah Burton . . . my brother Richard Dogwell . . . my sonne in law Isaake Woder . . . my sonne Thomas Burton of London whom I ordaine & make my full & whole executor.

Stephen Burton's son Thomas was admitted a freeman of the Grocers' Company in 1610 and was elected to the livery on 22 March 1620.^[39] In 1615 Thomas Burton was recorded in the Vestry Minute Books as living in the parish of St. Bartholomew Exchange, and in 1621 he appeared as a constable of the parish. He was mentioned a number of times in the minutes until 23 March 1627, when he was asked to be Senior Church Warden but declined, alleging "many reasons for his Imploymt. abraode elsewhere."^[40]

A deed dated 20 November 1616 and signed "Thomas Burton Citizen & Grocer of London" is preserved at the London Metropolitan Archives.^[41] On 5 January 1619/20, Thomas and his brother Stephen leased property along the Thames River at Kingston to two brewers whose late father had previously held the lease.^[42]

Thomas Burton of London Grocer, and Stephen Burton of London Draper . . . have devised . . . unto the said Thomas Tyffin and John Tyffin . . . All that Messuage or Tenemt with barnes stables roomes wharfs yards orchards gardens backsides and premises . . . situated lying and being in Kingston upon Thames aforesaid in a Streete there called West by Thames Street, neere the bridge there called Clattering Bridge, And all that great wharfe with barnes and outhouses thereon . . . on the northeast part

³⁹ Index of Freemen, Grocers' Company [note 5]; Court Minute Books, 1602–1661, Grocers' Company [note 28]. See also Percival Boyd, "Pedigrees with Index of London Citizens, abt. 1600–1800," Thomas Burton, index # 43285 [FHL 0,094,617]; courtesy of Gail A. Howell.

⁴⁰ Freshfield, *Vestry Minute Books* [note 25], 1:72, 73, 76, 78, 79, 83, 85, 86, 90; last entry courtesy of Gail A. Howell — who suggests that this wording may allude to Thomas Burton's membership in the East India Company. His brother Stephen Burton became a member in 1614, and was also a member of the Merchant Adventurers and the New Merchant Adventurers (Theodore K. Rabb, *Enterprise and Empire: Merchant and Gentry Investment in the Expansion of England, 1575–1630* [Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1967], 257).

⁴¹ London Metropolitan Archives, London [ref. BRA 203/128].

⁴² Kingston Museum, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey [ref. KC4/1/28].

of the premises . . . paying therefore yearly during the said terme of twenty and one years unto the said Thomas Burton and Stephen Burton . . . twelve pounds . . .

The St. Bartholomew parish registers record the baptisms of his daughter Martha and son Stephen, and show that Thomas and his brother Stephen were churchwardens in 1625 and 1626:^[43]

Martha Burton daughter of Thomas & Martha Burton was christened 24 June 1619

Stephen Burton sonne of Thomas Burton and Martha his wyfe was christened the 11th of November 1623

1625 John Graunt parson, Anthony Clowse & Thomas Burton, Churchwardens

1626 Stephen Burton & John Bromfield, Churchwardens

The will of Richard Burton “of Hammersmith in the parish of Fulham,” dated 9 September 1622 and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1 October 1622,^[44] makes “my cousin Thomas Burton of London groc^r” an overseer, and mentions Richard’s wife Ellen; brother James; and children Katherine (deceased), Nehemiah, Judith, and Obadiah. Witnesses included Henry Burton, Thomas Burton, and William Bolton. Richard was probably Thomas Burton’s uncle.

The 1638 tithes and rents lists preserved at Lambeth Palace give only surnames, but it seems likely that at least two entries concern this family. The first was undoubtedly the shop of either Thomas or his brother Stephen, on which an annual rent of £45 was paid, and the second was a warehouse in Leadenhall Market just a few hundred yards away,^[45] which probably belonged to one of the brothers.

St. Bartholomew Exchange: Shops, Shudds and Cellars, Mr. Burton, £45.

St. Peter Cornhill: Within Leadenhall, a warehouse and a large cellar late Mr. Burton’s £8.

Perhaps the warehouse was “late Mr. Burton’s” because Thomas had just immigrated to America with daughter Martha, leaving his fifteen-year-old son Stephen in London.^[46]

⁴³ Parish registers of St. Bartholomew Exchange [note 29].

⁴⁴ Prerogative Court of Canterbury registered wills, The National Archives, PROB 11/40 [image ref. 274].

⁴⁵ T. C. Dale, ed., *The Inhabitants of London in 1638*, 2 vols. (London: Society of Genealogists, 1931), 36–37, 176–77. The rents listed are actually three-fourths of the actual rents.

⁴⁶ In 1642 Stephen Burton, son of Thomas Burton, Citizen and Grocer of London, was apprenticed to John Brooks who, in turn, had been apprenticed to Thomas’ brother, Stephen Burton, in 1624 (Boyd, *Roll of the Drapers’ Company* [note 34], 32; correspondence with and documents provided by Miss Penelope Fussell, Archivist, The Drapers’ Company, Drapers’ Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2N 2DQ; courtesy of Gail A. Howell).

Genealogical Summary

1. **HENRY^B BURTON**, yeoman, may have been the son of Richard and Agnes (_____) Burton, and the grandson of Robert and Alice (_____) Burton, all of Fulham, Middlesex. Henry was residual legatee and executor of the 1573 will of his sister Alice Burton of Fulham, and his own will was dated 25 July 1588 and proved in the Commissary Court of London 11 December 1592. He married **ELIZABETH** _____, whose will was dated 26 November 1599, and proved in the Commissary Court of London 21 October 1601.

Children of Henry and Elizabeth (_____) Burton, order unknown:

- 2
 - i. **STEPHEN^A BURTON**, m. (1) **MARY SWINSTED**; (2) **ELLEN** (_____) **WODDER**.
 - ii. **RICHARD BURTON**. He probably was the Richard Burton of Hammersmith, whose will, dated 9 Sept. 1622, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1 Oct. 1622, mentions wife Ellen; brother James; and children Katherine (deceased), Nehemiah, Judith, and Obadiah.
 - iii. **JAMES BURTON**, d. probably after 9 Sept. 1622.
 - iv. **MARY BURTON**, m. by 11 Dec. 1592 (date of father's will) **RICHARD DOGWELL**, who d. after 10 April 1613 (date of Stephen Burton's will).
 - v. **JUDITH BURTON**, m. by license dated 13 Nov. 1583 **WILLIAM BROTHERTON**.^[47]
 - vi. ?**KATHERINE BURTON**, m. _____ **PICKEMERE**; known only from the 1613 will of her brother Stephen as "sister Katherine Pickemere."

2. **STEPHEN^A BURTON** (*Henry^B*), of the parish of St. Bartholomew (by the Exchange London, died between 10 April 1613, the date of his will, and 20 May 1613, the date it was proved in the Commissary Court of London. He married first at Ware, Hertfordshire, 12 August 1582, **MARY SWINSTED**, daughter of Richard and Alice (_____) Swinsted. She was buried at St. Bartholomew Exchange 28 September 1604, and Stephen married second at St. Clement Eastcheap, London, 7 September 1607, **ELLEN** (_____) **WODDER**.

Stephen was admitted a freeman of the Grocers' Company in 1580 and was elected to the livery in 1605. He appeared in the London Subsidy Rolls of 1582 and 1599, as well as in a deed of 1612 and the Visitation of London, 1633–1635. His home was on Bartholomew Lane for many years, and later in the Hammersmith section of Fulham, Middlesex.

Children of Stephen^A and Mary (Swinsted) Burton, all baptized at St. Bartholomew Exchange:

- i. **STEPHEN BURTON**, bp. 19 June 1583; d. between 25 July 1657 (date of his will) and 23 Oct. 1657 (date of probate in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury); m. St. Vedast Foster Lane, London, 14 Feb. 1614 **MARTHA PRESCOTT**, bp. St.

⁴⁷ Marriage license allegation, dated 13 November 1583: "William Brotherton, Gent., & Judith Burton, Spinster, of Fulham, Midd^x, dau. of Henry Burton, of same, Yeoman; at same" (*Allegations for Marriage Licenses Issued by the Bishop of London, 1520–1610*, Publications of The Harleian Society, Visitation Series, vol. 25 [London, 1887], 124).

Thomas the Apostle, London, 24 July 1594,^[48] daughter of Jeffrey and Margaret (Stacy) Prescott.^[49] Stephen was a draper in London.

- ii. RICHARD BURTON, bp. 20 May 1585; bur. St. Bartholomew Exchange 21 Jan. 1592.
- 3 iii. THOMAS¹ BURTON, bp. 26 May 1588; m. MARTHA _____.
- iv. HENRY BURTON, bp. 11 Oct. 1591; d. after 25 July 1657 (date of his brother Stephen's will).
- v. MARY BURTON, bp. 12 Jan. 1594; m. WILLIAM BOLTON, of Cornhill, London, grocer.^[50]

3. THOMAS¹ BURTON (*Stephen^A, Henry^B*), was baptized 26 May 1588 at St. Bartholomew Exchange, London. He died, perhaps in New England, by 4 January 1650/1 when his son-in-law sold his house and land in New Hampshire. Thomas Burton married by 1619 **MARTHA** _____.

Thomas was admitted a freeman of the Grocers' Company in 1610 and was elected to the livery in 1620. He signed deeds at London in 1616 and 1619/20. He (or his brother Stephen) may have been the "Mr. Burton" who in 1638 was recorded as paying £45 in annual rent for his shop in that parish and £8 for a warehouse in nearby Leadenhall Market.

Thomas was admitted an inhabitant of Newport, Rhode Island, on or after 20 May 1638, and later owned land in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. He appears to have been the Thomas Burton who signed the Remonstrance of 1646 in Massachusetts. Afterwards he appears to have retired to Strawberry Bank (Portsmouth, New Hampshire).

⁴⁸ *The Parish Register of St. Thomas the Apostle, London . . . 1588–1754*, Publications of The Harleian Society, London Parish Records, vol. 6 (London, 1881), 34.

⁴⁹ Jeffrey Prescott and Margaret Stacye were married at St. Dionis Backchurch, London, 3 December 1584 (*The Register Booke of Saynte De'nis Backchurch parish . . .*, Publications of The Harleian Society, London Parish Records, vol. 3 [London, 1878], 10). The will of Jeffrey Prescott, "Citizen and Marchantaylor of London," dated 16 July 1625, mentions wife Margaret and son-in-law Stephen Burton (Prerogative Court of Canterbury wills, The National Archives, PROB 11/148 [image ref. 437]; courtesy of Gail A. Howell). The will of Margaret Prescott, of the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle, London, widow, dated 1 November 1639, mentions son-in-law Stephen Burton and "my daughter Martha his wife" (ibid., PROB 11/182 [image ref. 50]; courtesy of Gail A. Howell). Margaret Prescott's will is also in Henry F. Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England*, 2 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1901; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969), 1:319.

⁵⁰ *Visitation of London 1633–1635* [note 30], 1:84. William Bolton had been apprenticed to Stephen Burton, was admitted a freeman of the Grocers' Company in 1610, and was elected to the livery in 1623 (Index of Freeman, Grocers' Company [note 5]). Stephen Bolton, son of William and Mary (Burton) Bolton, was a member of London's Common Council in 1662, and his parents are named in his biographical sketch in J. R. Woodhead, *The Rulers of London 1660–1689: A Biographical Record of the Aldermen and Common Councilmen of the City of London*, (London: London & Middlesex Archaeological Society, 1966), 34.

Children of Thomas¹ and Martha (____) Burton, baptized at St. Bartholomew Exchange:

- i. MARTHA² BURTON, bp. 24 June 1619; d. probably 1672–73, m. by about 1644, as his second wife, GOV. WILLIAM BRENTON, b. by about 1610, d. Taunton, Mass. (then Plymouth Colony), between 25 Sept. 1674 and 13 Nov. 1674.^[51]
- ii. STEPHEN BURTON, bp. 11 Nov. 1623; d. after 28 Jan. 1672, presumably in London.^[52] The name of his wife has not been found. He did not accompany his father to New England in 1638 or 1639 but remained in London.

Child of Stephen Burton:

1. *Stephen Burton*, b. say 1650; d. Bristol, R.I. (then Mass.), 22 July 1693; immigrated to New England by 11 Dec. 1674,^[53] but made at least one trip back to London (in 1679).^[54] He m. (1) by 1677 his first cousin *Abigail Brenton*, b. say 1659, bur. Bristol 30 March 1684, daughter of Gov. William and Martha (Burton) Brenton;^[55] (2) Marshfield, Mass., 4 Sept. 1684 *Elizabeth Winslow*, b. there 8 April 1664, d. Pembroke, Mass., 11 July 1735, daughter of Gov. Josiah and Penelope (Pelham) Winslow.^[56]

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⁵¹ Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 6], 1:222.

⁵² He was living on that date when he was a grantor; see the deed described in note 11.

⁵³ On 11 December 1674 John Cranston of Newport conveyed all his interest in the estate of William Brenton of Rhode Island to Stephen Burton, Jr., merch^t of the City of London, “now Resident in New England” (*Suffolk Deeds* [note 15], 9:130), while the deed of 28 January 1672 (see note 11) called him of the City of London only. Nevertheless, on 22 July 1670 Stephen Burton (presumably Stephen Burton, Jr.) witnessed a deed for land in Boston made by William and Martha Brenton of Taunton (*Suffolk Deeds*, 7:69).

⁵⁴ Peter Wilson Coldham, *Lord Mayor’s Court of London Depositions Relating to Americans, 1641–1736*, National Genealogical Society Special Publication No. 44 (Washington, D.C., 1980), 11–12, 74.

⁵⁵ Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 6], 1:222–23.

⁵⁶ Wakefield, “William Brenton & the Burton Family” [note 6], *The American Genealogist* 59:84–89; Ruth C. McGuyre, Robert S. Wakefield, and Harriet W. Hodge, *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations . . . Volume Five [Edward Winslow and John Billington]* (Plymouth, Mass.: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1991), 9–10.

ABIAH COYE (ca. 1720–ca. 1783) OF PRESTON, CONNECTICUT, AND HALLOWELL, MAINE

*Judith Waite Freeman**

Abiah Coye, son of Jonathan and Abigail Coye, was baptized with his two brothers, Jonathan and Samuel, on 26 February 1720/1 at the North Preston, Congregational Church, then in Preston, now in Griswold, Connecticut.^[1] Subsequent baptisms of younger siblings between 1723 and 1735 merely list the father's name.^[2] Since the three eldest sons were baptized at the same time, we do not know their exact ages, but if they were listed in their birth order, Abiah would be the third child born and probably not more than a year or two old since the subsequent children were all baptized in a pattern of every two to three years apart. His birth date can probably be estimated to be about 1719 or 1720 since he was baptized in February of 1721. Abigail Coy, listed immediately above her three children, was baptized as an adult and admitted into the same church on 19 February, a week before her children.^[3] Her maiden name has not been found. Jonathan Coye died at Preston on 10 February 1766, and his widow Abigail died there on 12 June 1767.^[4]

Abiah Coye married at the North Preston church on 8 July 1740, Ruth Wedge.^[5] He was admitted to the church there on 18 April 1742, and their only known child, a son Nathaniel, was baptized on 29 May 1743.^[6] Undocumented sources claim they also had a son Abiah, born 8 July 1744, either at Preston or Windham, Connecticut,^[7] and that he was the Abiah Coye who married Judith Luce on 3 March 1762 at Tisbury on Martha's Vineyard.^[8]

* The author gratefully acknowledges the valuable research of Jean G. Cheger, a descendant of Abiah Coye, and the able assistance and encouragement of NEHGS staff genealogists Christopher Child and David Allen Lambert.

¹ Records of the First Congregational Church of Griswold, formerly the North Preston Congregational Church, 1:56; Barbara Lambert Merrick, *Mayflower Families in Progress: William Brewster of the Mayflower and the Fifth Generation Descendants of His Son Jonathan*² (Plymouth, Mass.: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1999), 154. The Town of Griswold was set off from Preston in 1815.

² Records of North Preston/Griswold Congregational Church [note 1], 1:58–61, 64; Merrick, *William Brewster Descendants: Jonathan* [note 1], 154.

³ Records of North Preston/Griswold Congregational Church [note 1], 1:9 (admission), 1:56 (baptism).

⁴ *Ibid.*, 1:201.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 1:254; Frederic W. Bailey, ed., *Early Connecticut Marriages as Found on Ancient Church Records Prior to 1800*, 7 parts (New Haven, Conn.: Bureau of American Ancestry for Family Researches, 1896–1906; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976), 4:36.

⁶ Records of North Preston/Griswold Congregational Church [note 1], 1:12 (admission), 74 (baptism).

⁷ *FamilySearch.org*; One World Tree at *Ancestry.com*.

⁸ *Vital Records of Tisbury, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1910), 156.

However, all the circumstantial evidence points to Judith's husband being Abiah Coye who was baptized in 1721:

(1) There is no evidence for the existence of Abiah Coye, born 8 July 1744, and the day and month are suspicious, being identical to the day and month his alleged parents were married.

(2) Judith was born about 1738,^[9] and thus was about age 24 on 3 March 1762 when she married as a young widow. It makes more sense that her second husband was a 42-year-old widower rather than a 17-year-old young man.

(3) No one named Abiah or Abijah Coy(e) has been found in New England of the right age to marry Judith in 1762 other than the man baptized in 1721. And some of Judith's cousins who lived in Windham, Connecticut, had married men from Preston, including one of Abiah Coye's brothers.^[10]

There is good evidence that Abiah Coye, baptized 1721, was living on 29 June 1764 and that his wife, Ruth Wedge, had died before that date. Ruth had an unmarried sister, Rebecca Wedge, who died at Norwich, Connecticut, 11 July 1764,^[11] leaving a will dated 29 June 1764, probated 25 July 1764. It mentions Abiah and Ruth in different parts of the will:

Item. I give & bequeath unto my Brother Abiah Coye three pounds lawfull money of the money which he now has in his hands to be his for ever. Money being secured to me by note of hand bearing date of May 7th 1762.

And as for the rest or residue of my estate not before disposed of I give the one eighth part to the above named Elizabeth and Zerviah my Brother Joshua's children to be equally divided between them and the other seven parts thereof to my Brethern and sisters viz. William, David & my sisters ~~Ruth~~, Abigail, Sarah, Patience, & Hannah to be equally divided to each of them.^[12]

In the original will the name "Ruth" has been crossed out with two lines, suggesting that she had died before the date of the will.^[13] Rebecca Wedge mentions the children of her deceased brother, Joshua Wedge, but does not

⁹ Charles Edward Banks, *The History of Martha's Vineyard, Dukes County Massachusetts*, 3 vols. (Boston: George Dean, 1911), 3:253.

¹⁰ Ibid., 3:252; Bailey, *Early Connecticut Marriages* [note 5], 4:38; Ada R. Chase, "The MacWithey Family of Preston, Connecticut," *The American Genealogist* 19 (1942/43):141–50 at 143–46.

¹¹ Paul J. Ostendorf, *A Wedge of the Wedge Family in America . . .* (Winona, Minn.: the author, 1974), 11, from her gravestone. However, Charles R. Hale, "Charles R. Hale Collection [of Cemetery Inscriptions and Newspaper Notices of Marriages and Deaths]," (1933–34), Norwich, 607, says there was no death date on her gravestone.

¹² Norwich District Probate, file 11,287. Ruth's name is omitted entirely from the will book copy (3:47), but the wording "the other seven parts" has not been adjusted. The inventory at 3:63–64 does not allude to this discrepancy.

¹³ There is no record of a divorce for Abiah and Ruth Coye in Grace Louise Knox and Barbara B. Ferris, *Connecticut Divorces: Superior Court Records for the Counties of New London, Tolland and Windham, 1719–1910* (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1987).

mention Ruth's children. This could indicate that Ruth had no children surviving at the date of the will.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

ABIAH⁴ COYE, was born about 1720 and baptized at Preston, Connecticut, 26 February 1720/1, son of Jonathan³ and Abigail (____) Coye, and grandson of Matthew² (*Matthew¹*) and Ann (Brewster) Coy(e).^[14] Abiah married first at Preston 8 July 1740, **RUTH WEDGE**, daughter of Joshua and Rebecca (____) Wedge.^[15] She died say 1761, and he married second at Tisbury on Martha's Vineyard 3 March 1762, **JUDITH (LUCE) LUCE**, born there about 1738, daughter of Shubael and Mercy (Luce) Luce, and widow of Abijah Luce.^[16]

Abiah Coye served as a private in the French and Indian War in August 1757.^[17] After their marriage in 1762, Abiah and Judith were in Preston briefly where a daughter Ruth was baptized in 1763. They were back on Martha's Vineyard by 1766 when their son Daniel was born there. In 1770 Abiah Coye was the schoolmaster at Tisbury.^[18] On 26 January 1771 Abiah and Judith Coye sold to her brother Enoch Luce land inherited from their "beloved father Shubael Luce."^[19]

In 1771 or 1772 Abiah and Judith moved to Hallowell, Maine, where a daughter, Mary, was born 6 September 1772. Another daughter, Jane, was born there 11 June 1775. Abiah died there intestate before 24 June 1783 when

¹⁴ Barbara Lambert Merrick, *Mayflower Families in Progress: William Brewster of the Mayflower and His Descendants for Four Generations* (Plymouth, Mass.: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, rev. 3rd ed., 2000), 63; Merrick, *William Brewster Descendants: Jonathan* [note 1], 153–54; For Matthew¹ Coy(e), see Annie Haven Thwing, *Inhabitants and Estates of the Town of Boston, 1630–1800, and The Crooked and Narrow Streets of Boston, 1630–1822*, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS and Massachusetts Historical Society, 2001), and the sources cited in Clarence Almon Torrey, *New England Marriages Prior to 1700*, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS, 2001).

¹⁵ Ostendorf, *Wedge Family* [note 11], 5–6, 11.

¹⁶ *Vital Records of Tisbury* [note 8], 157 (marriage of parents), 151, 156 (Judith's first marriage in 1760 as "Mrs. Judith Luce"), 156 (her second marriage in 1762 as "Judeth Luce"). The use of "Mrs." in 1760 for such a young woman might suggest a prior marriage, but none has been found. The 1771 deed cited below indicates she was the daughter of Shubal Luce, as does the division of his real estate on 29 September 1752 (Dukes County Probate, 4:1). See also Martha F. McCourt, Thomas R. Luce, Robert L. Massard, and Catherine M. Mayhew, *The American Descendants of Henry Luce of Martha's Vineyard*, 5 vols. (Vancouver, Wash.: M.J.F. McCourt, 1994–99), 1:64; 4:2720–21.

¹⁷ *Rolls of Connecticut Men in the French and Indian War, 1755–1762*, 2 vols., Connecticut Historical Society Collections, vol. 9–10 (Hartford, Conn., 1903–05), 1:232. This military service and his move to Hallowell, Maine (as well as the records of his life on Martha's Vineyard), are included in the sketch of Abiah Coye in Charles Edward Banks, "Settlers of Martha's Vineyard," 25 vols., unpaginated manuscript, 1922, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Dept., NEHGS, Mss A B32, vol. 6.

¹⁸ Banks, *History of Martha's Vineyard* [note 9], 2:107 (in "Annals of West Tisbury").

¹⁹ Dukes County Deeds, 9:760.

administration on his estate was granted to Judith.^[20] Their son Daniel was then a minor above the age of fourteen, and on 6 January 1783 he chose as guardian, Squire Bishop,^[21] who was married to Daniel's older sister Ruth.^[22] On 24 September 1792, Squire and Ruth Bishop, Timothy and Jane Ladd, and widow Judith Coye sold for £13 to Daniel Coye, then of Readfield, Massachusetts [*sic*, now Maine], lots 33 and 34 in Hallowell, on the west side of the Kennebec River.^[23]

Judith was evidently well acquainted with Martha Ballard, the prominent midwife of Hallowell, whose diary was the basis of a bestselling work by historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, *A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard Based on Her Diary, 1785–1812*.^[24] In the diary itself, Judith is mentioned many times between 1786 and 1791, first as “widow Coy” and then as “Mrs. Coy.”^[25]

Judith (Luce) (Luce) Coye married third at Vassalboro, Maine, 26 April 1793, Eliphalet Pierce,^[26] born at Watertown, Massachusetts, 29 July 1728, son of John and Rebecca (Fenno) Pierce,^[27] and widower of Elizabeth Wheeler.^[28] In the

²⁰ Lincoln County Probate, 2:195–96; William Davis Patterson, ed., *The Probate Records of Lincoln County, Maine, 1760 to 1800* (Portland, Maine: Maine Genealogical Society, 1895; repr. Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1991), 124. Also on 24 June 1783 Judith Coye was appointed administrator of the estate of Joseph Swasey of Vassalboro (Lincoln County Probate, 2:195; Patterson, *Probate Records of Lincoln County*, 124); perhaps this was a clerical error.

²¹ Lincoln County Probate, 2:200–01. Daniel, son of Abiah Coy, made his choice of Squire Bishop of Winthrop on 6 January 1783 and acknowledged the act on 29 September 1783. Bishop was appointed on 6 January 1784. One wonders whether the years were recorded correctly.

²² It is chronologically possible the guardian was Ruth (Coye) Bishop's father-in-law, also named Squire Bishop, but it seems unlikely.

²³ Lincoln County Deeds, 4:398 [Kennebec County series; originally in Lincoln County Deeds, 34:219], dated 24 September 1792, acknowledged by “Judy Coye” the same day, by “Squier Bishop Junr.” 15 November 1793, and by Timothy Ladd 8 March 1794; recorded 12 June 1795.

²⁴ Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, *A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard Based on Her Diary, 1785–1812* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990).

²⁵ Robert R. MacCausland and Cynthia MacAlman McCausland, ed., *The Diary of Martha Ballard, 1785–1812*, Maine Genealogical Society Special Publication No. 10 (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 1992), *passim*.

²⁶ Angela Foster, *The Vital Records of Vassalboro . . .* (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 2003), 4; intentions published at Hallowell 2 April 1793 (Mabel Hall Goodwin, *Vital Records of Hallowell, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 6 vols. [n.p.: Maine Historical Society, 1924–29], 2:96).

²⁷ Ruth Gray, ed., *Maine Families in 1790, Volume 2*, Maine Genealogical Society Special Publication No. 5 (Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1990), 222 (mistakenly shows Judith as marrying Eliphalet Pierce, Jr., [her stepson], who was nineteen years her junior); [*Twenty-Eighth*] *Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston, Containing the Boston Marriages from 1700 to 1751* (Boston: Municipal Printing Office, 1898), 318 (parents' marriage at Dorchester).

²⁸ Eliphalet Pierce and Elizabeth Wheeler, both of Stoughton, married 3 April 1755 (Frederic Endicott, *The Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths and Intentions of Marriage in the Town of Stoughton from 1727 to 1800 and in the Town of Canton from 1797 to 1745 . . .* [Canton, Mass.: William Bense, 1896], 65, intentions on 12 March 1755 at p. 75). Henry Bond, M.D., *Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the Early Settlers of Watertown, Massachusetts*, 2nd ed., 2 vols. in 1 (Boston: NEHGS, 1860), 395, 870, says that Eliphalet married at Stoughton 9 July 1757, Patience Copp. However, it was *Ezekiel* Pierce who married Patience Copp there on 9 February

Wall Cemetery in Augusta, Maine, a boulder with a bronze plaque states: “Erected by the Isaiah Pierce Association to the memory of Eliphalet Pierce, who settled in Augusta in the year 1784 and died in 1798.”^[29] However, Eliphalet Pierce died at Augusta 3 August 1797,^[30] and administration on his estate was granted to Samuel Pierce on 10 August 1797.^[31] On 6 August 1798, “Eliphalet Pierce of Easton in the County of Bristol & Commonwealth of Massachusetts” sold to Theophilus Capon of Vassalboro, Lincoln County, “a tract of land lying in Augusta in the county aforesaid being Lot No. [blank] on the estate which my father Eliphalet Pierce late of said Augusta deceased owned, lived upon & improved.”^[32]

Judith’s date of death has not been found. It is possible that the following comment in Martha Ballard’s diary refers to Judith: 12 November 1798, “Mrs. Pierce went from here attended by Mr. Kimball in a Shais [*sic*, chaise].” Because Martha Ballard frequently omitted first names, it is not always clear to whom she was referring.^[33]

Child of Abiah and Ruth (Wedge) Coye:

- i. NATHANIEL⁵ COYE, bp. Preston, Conn., 29 May 1743, d. perhaps by 29 June 1764, the date of his aunt Rebecca Wedge’s will.

Children of Abiah and Judith (Luce) (Luce) Coye:^[34]

- ii. RUTH COYE, b. Tisbury, Mass., 6 April 1763,^[35] bp. Preston 8 June 1763;^[36] d. Mount Vernon, Maine, 12 Jan. 1821;^[37] m. by 10 March 1783 SQUIRE

1757, not 9 July 1757 (*Record of Births . . . Stoughton and Canton*, 176). “Notes on William Wheeler of Canton, Mass.,” *Register* 104 (1950):244, says only that Elizabeth Wheeler married Eliphalet Pierce.

Perhaps Elizabeth (Wheeler) Pierce died 21 March 1791 (“Mrs. Pierce expired 21 March 1791,” *Diary of Martha Ballard* [note 25], 189). Because Martha Ballard frequently omitted first names, it is not always clear to whom she was referring. One of Martha Ballard’s sons married a daughter of Eliphalet and Elizabeth (Wheeler) Pierce (*ibid.*, 866), and the diary frequently refers to the other Pierce children as well.

²⁹ Maine Old Cemetery Association, *Maine Cemetery Inscriptions: Kennebec County*, 6 vols. (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 1999), 1:712; Ethel Colby Conant, *Vital Records of Augusta, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 2 vols. (n.p.: Maine Historical Society, 1933–34), 2:397.

³⁰ *Maine Families in 1790, Volume 2* [note 27], 222, citing “VRs,” apparently Augusta vital records, but not found in Conant, *Vital Records of Augusta* [note 29].

³¹ Lincoln County Probate, 7:66 (inventory at 8:31); Patterson, *Probate Records of Lincoln County* [note 20], 278–79.

³² Lincoln County Deeds, 42:45. “Mr. Elifelet Pierch” married at Easton 23 November 1781, Mrs. Sarah Hews, both of Easton (“Birth, deaths, and marriages by families, 1697–1847 [Easton, Mass.],” manuscript [FHL 1,059,951], 156).

³³ *Diary of Martha Ballard* [note 25], 462. However, the next year she mentioned “Mrs. Pierce” on 28 November 1799 and “Mr. & Mrs. Pierce and Jack Pierce” on 8 December 1799 (501, 502). Based on *Maine Families in 1790, Volume 2* [note 27], 222–23, Martha Ballard could be referring to Eliphalet’s sons and their wives in 1799.

³⁴ The 1792 deed (see note 23) gives the names of the husbands of the daughters. For their children see *Descendants of Henry Luce* [note 16], 1:158–59; 4:2721; Warren Ladd, *The Ladd Family . . .* (New Bedford, Mass., the author, 1890), 85–86.

- BISHOP,^[38] b. Rehoboth, Mass., 3 Sept. 1759, son of Squire and Patience (Titus) Bishop.^[39]
- iii. DANIEL COY(E), b. Tisbury 4 Oct. 1766;^[40] d. 5 Oct. 1849 age 82, bur. Readfield, Maine;^[41] m. Winthrop, Maine, in 1788 or 1789 APHIA FRENCH,^[42] daughter of John French.^[43]
- iv. NATHAN COYE, b. Tisbury 9 Feb. 1769;^[44] d. probably by 24 Sept. 1792.^[45]
- v. MARY COYE, b. Hallowell, Maine, 6 Sept. 1772;^[46] bur. 16 Aug. 1787.^[47]
- vi. JANE COYE, b. Hallowell 11 June 1775;^[48] m. by 12 March 1792 TIMOTHY LADD,^[49] d. Vienna, Maine, 5 Dec. 1854,^[50] son of Nathaniel Ladd.^[51] She was mentioned twice in Martha Ballard's diary in 1789 as "Genny Coy."^[52]

Judith Waite Freeman, an Honorary Life Member and former trustee of NEHGS, lives in New Orleans. She is descended from Jane "Jenny" Coye who married Timothy Ladd.

³⁵ *Vital Records of Tisbury* [note 8], 32.

³⁶ Records of North Preston/Griswold Congregational Church [note 1], 1:97.

³⁷ Town and Vital Records of Mount Vernon, Maine [FHL 0,011,547], 3:383.

³⁸ Their oldest child, also named Squire, was born 10 March 1783 (Town and Vital Records of Mount Vernon [note 37], 2:308). Note Daniel Coye chose Squire Bishop as his guardian on 6 January 1783 (see note 21).

³⁹ James N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rehoboth 1642–1896*, 2 vols. (Providence, R.I.: Narragansett Historical Publishing Co., 1897; reprint Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1992), 2:533 (birth); Everett S. Stackpole, *History of Winthrop, Maine, with Genealogical Notes* (Auburn, Maine: Merrill & Weber Co., 1925), 286–87.

⁴⁰ *Vital Records of Tisbury* [note 8], 32.

⁴¹ *Maine Cemetery Inscriptions: Kennebec County* [note 29], 4:2335.

⁴² Town and Vital Records of Winthrop, Maine [FHL 0,012,299], 1:75, 101.

⁴³ Stackpole, *History of Winthrop* [note 39], 388.

⁴⁴ *Vital Records of Tisbury* [note 8], 32.

⁴⁵ See note 23.

⁴⁶ Goodwin, *Vital Records of Hallowell* [note 26], 1:73.

⁴⁷ *Diary of Martha Ballard* [note 25], 72, "Mrs. Coy buried a daughter yesterday;" also in Ulrich, *Midwife's Tale* [note 24], 38.

⁴⁸ Goodwin, *Vital Records of Hallowell* [note 26], 1:73.

⁴⁹ Their oldest child, Reuben, was born 12 March 1792 (Town and Vital Records of Mount Vernon [note 37], 2:326).

⁵⁰ Vital Records of Vienna, Maine [FHL 0,012,272], 1:133.

⁵¹ Ladd, *Ladd Family* [note 34], 56.

⁵² *Diary of Martha Ballard* [note 25], 137, 139; also in Ulrich, *Midwife's Tale* [note 24], 104.

A SMALL WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY: THE NORRIS FAMILY RETURNS TO TAMLAGHTMORE, CO. TYRONE, IRELAND

Sharon DeBartolo Carmack

Most never returned. When they left Ireland and headed for America's shores, they were given an "American wake." It was as if those leaving were dying. Family members knew they would never see their loved ones again. At least, this was the case for most Irish immigrants. Although they may have longed to see the emerald shores of their homeland again, the transatlantic voyage was too costly to return. Unlike Italians or Greeks who were "birds of passage," few Irish returned home. Some did go back, however, and while they were there, they might have even created records.

David and Delia (Gordon) Norris were Irish immigrants who had settled in Greenwich, Connecticut. By all appearances in American records, you would never suspect they had left. They were enumerated on the 1900 Federal census for Greenwich, taken on 6 June of that year.^[1] The next American record of them, on 21 November 1901, was when David and Delia Norris of Greenwich purchased for \$1 "and other good and valuable considerations" from Fannie B. Grigg of Greenwich, a parcel of land in that town.^[2] Yet, between 6 June 1900 and 21 November 1901, David, Delia, and their seven children were not in America. They were back in Ireland creating records.

David had originally immigrated to America about 1878, as indicated in the 1900 census.^[3] The youngest son of John and Nancy (Booth) Norris, David was born 8 June 1860 in the townland of Tamlaghtmore, Co. Tyrone, Ireland, and baptized on 4 July 1861 in Albany Presbyterian Church, Co. Tyrone.^[4] Based on the 1900 census, David married about 1886, probably in America, Bridget/Delia Gordon, who was born in the townland of Ardvarney, parish of Cloonclare, Co. Leitrim, Ireland, and baptized in the Catholic church there on 29 April 1859. She immigrated to America, likely with her twin sister Mary Gordon, in 1885.^[5]

¹ 1900 U.S. Census, Greenwich, Fairfield County, Connecticut, roll 133, E.D. 72, p. 23A.

² Greenwich, Connecticut, Deeds, 84:462 [FHL 1,434,435].

³ David has not been located on the 1880 census. However, he might be the David Norris who arrived at the Port of New York on 17 May 1882, on the *Furnessia*, which departed from Glasgow, Scotland, and then Moville, Ireland. This David was from Ireland, age 22, giving him an approximate birth year of 1860. The port of Moville certainly would have been one of the closest ports to David's townland (NARA Microcopy M237, roll 452, list 630, viewed on *Ancestry.com*).

⁴ Birth and baptism information were abstracted by Mr. Kee, an elder in the Presbyterian Church in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, Ireland, from the original baptismal register for the Albany Congregation.

⁵ Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, "Going Through the Side Door: The Irish Origins of Delia (Gordon) Norris of Greenwich, Connecticut," *Register* 157 (2003):124–26.

Between 1887 and 1896, David and Delia had seven children: six girls and a boy, all born in Greenwich, Connecticut.^[6] Four years later, they next appear on the 1900 census for Greenwich, and then in the land records there in 1901. Most researchers would be content with this relatively narrow chronology of events—I certainly was—as rarely can we account for an ancestor during every year of their lives. Yet a family story that made no sense at the time eventually prompted a search for records during that eighteen-month period between the summer of 1900 and the fall of 1901.

David and Delia were my mother's grandparents. Their last-born child, Rose, was her mother. Every time I interviewed my mother, she insisted that her mother, Rose, was born in Ireland. The family story she remembered was that Rose had contracted scarlet fever on board the ship to America. This was not possible; I had Rose's birth certificate from Greenwich.^[7] There was no question in my mind: she was born in America. Even though we are taught that there is usually a grain of truth in every family story, I shrugged this one off as the exception to the rule—until many years later when I interviewed my mother's older sister. She told me that the family had gone back to Ireland after Rose was born, and on the return trip, Rose had scarlet fever.

Sure enough, there was the whole family, returning from the port of Queenstown (now Cobh) on 31 October 1901 (the day after Rose turned five), on the *Oceanic*, arriving at the port of New York on 6 November 1901.^[8] Why had the whole family gone back to Ireland? Although this was the age of steamship travel, it was not the age of family vacations abroad, especially for a family of nine whose primary breadwinner was a day laborer. The answers, of course, lay in Ireland.

No doubt their decision to return was prompted by the death of David's father, John Norris, in 1898, followed soon by the death of David's brother, John Jr., in August 1900.^[9] By November 1900, David, Delia, and their family were back in Ireland.^[10] David, as the youngest male in the Norris family, was likely the third member listed on the lease for the property in Tamlaghtmore. In a "lease of lives," a common agreement between tenant and landholder in Ireland, a tenant kept the lease as long as one of the three people named on it was still alive. Typically a father included on the lease his youngest son, as presumably that son would outlive him and the other named person. Because the whole family went with

⁶ Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, *My Wild Irish Rose: The Life of Rose (Norris) (O'Connor) Fitzhugh and her mother Delia (Gordon) Norris* (Boston: Newbury Street Press, 2001), 61–69.

⁷ Birth record for Rose Norris, 30 October 1896, Town of Greenwich, Connecticut.

⁸ Passenger arrival list for the Norris family on the *Oceanic*, leaving the Port of Queenstown, 31 October 1901, arriving at the Port of New York, 6 November 1901 [FHL 1,403,984], NARA T715, vol. 381, roll 234, third page of passengers.

⁹ Death registers, 1898 (John Norris Sr.) and 1900 (John Norris Jr.), District of Stewartstown, Union of Cookstown, Co. Tyrone; General Register Office, Joyce House, 8-11 Lombard Street East, Dublin 2, Ireland.

¹⁰ Based on the enrollment of their children in school there (see next note).

David to Ireland, and his children were immediately enrolled in school, perhaps David had intended to reestablish his roots in Tamlaghtmore.

Although no U.S. outbound passenger list is available, the family had returned to Ireland after they were enumerated on the 1900 U.S. census on 6 June 1900 and by 6 November 1900, when two of their daughters were admitted to the Ballymaguire National School in the Parish of Ardboe, Co. Tyrone. The school registers for female students listed the name of each pupil, her age, her birth date, and when she was admitted: Nellie Norris, age 11, born 18 March 1889 [*sic*—1890], and Katherine Frances Norris, age 6, born 19 June 1896 [*sic*—1893] were admitted 6 November 1900; Mary Anne Norris, age 13, born 1 July 1887, was enrolled on 7 November 1900; Margaret Elizabeth Norris, age 12, born 28 October 1888, enrolled on 4 December 1900; and “Jeanie” [Jane] Norris, age five [no birth date given], enrolled on 12 August 1901. All were recorded as Presbyterians residing in Tamlaghtmore, and their parents were farmers.^[11] Unfortunately, the registers did not list parents’ names, but except for the birth years of Nellie and Katherine, all the other information remarkably matches their Greenwich, Connecticut, birth records.^[12]

While the Norrises were in Ireland, they were also enumerated in the census there on 12 April 1901, although the census day was 31 March. They were living in Co. Tyrone, the townland of Tamlaghtmore, Barony of Dungannon, Parish of Ardboe, Poor Law Union of Cookstown.^[13] The household consisted of David Norris, head of family, Presbyterian, could read and write, age 41, farmer, married, born Co. Tyrone; “Dalia” G. Norris, wife, Roman Catholic, could read and write, age 42, no occupation, married, born Co. Leitrim; and their unmarried children, all Roman Catholic and born in America: Mary Ann Norris, daughter, could read and write, age 14, scholar; Marg^t E. Norris, daughter, could read and write, age 13, scholar; Ellen Norris, daughter, could read and write, age 12, scholar; John George Norris, son, could read and write, age 10, scholar; Catherine F. Norris, daughter, could read only, age 8, scholar; Jane Norris, daughter, cannot read, age 7; and Rose Norris, daughter, could not read, age 5.

The family lived in a private dwelling with ten buildings on the property: a stable, a cow house, a calf house, two piggeries, a fowl house, a barn, a turf house, a potato house, and a shed. The house they lived in had walls of stone, brick, or concrete with a thatched or wood roof. It contained three rooms with five windows in the front of the house and was considered a second class house.^[14]

¹¹ 1900 U.S. Census, Greenwich [note 1]; School Registers, Female Students, 1868–1929, Ballymaguire National School, Parish of Ardboe, Co. Tyrone, SCH/944/1/1, Public Records Office of Northern Ireland [PRONI], Belfast. Unfortunately, the only available register for male students covered 1915–1930, beyond the time when the Norrises were there.

¹² Carmack, *My Wild Irish Rose* [note 6], 61–67.

¹³ 1901 Ireland Census, Co. Tyrone, Townland of Tamlaghtmore, Barony of Dungannon, Parish of Ardboe, Poor Law Union of Cookstown, Form B13 [FHL 0,855,982].

¹⁴ Ibid.

“The criteria used to classify housing were the quality of building materials, the number of rooms and the presence of windows.”^[15]

David was also recorded in the Valuation Revision Book (also known as Cancelled Books) for the townland. His father, John Norris, had been listed as the occupier of Lots 1Aa, B, and C, with Rev. W. Chichester O'Neill as the immediate lessor or landlord in Griffith's Primary Valuation. The property consisted of houses, offices, and land. Lot 1Aa consisted of a little more than seven acres, property B a little more than nine acres, and property C a little more than nine acres.^[16] John Norris Jr. was added to his father's listing in 1894. John Norris Sr. and John Norris Jr. continued to occupy lots 1Aa, B, and C until 1899. When John Sr. died in 1898, the occupier became John Jr. in 1899. After John Jr.'s death in 1900, his brother, David, was listed in 1902 as the occupier. But after David died in 1902 (see below), John Kennedy became the occupier in 1903.^[17]

For reasons not known today, the Norrises decided to go back to Greenwich after being in Ireland for such a short period. Within nine months of their arrival back in America, David died at age 42 on 22 August 1902 from heart disease, the same cause of death as his father and brother. He died intestate, and Delia was appointed the administratrix.^[18]

The return to Ireland was a small window of opportunity, but it was enough time for David and his family to create another passenger arrival record, plus census, school, and valuation records in Ireland, broadening what was known about the family history.

Perhaps your Irish ancestors were among the few who also returned to Ireland. It certainly is worth checking additional passenger arrival list indexes for not just their first arrival to America, but maybe a second time as well.

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¹⁵ E. Margaret Crawford, *Counting the People: A Survey of the Irish Censuses, 1813–1911* (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2003), 49.

¹⁶ Griffith's Valuation, 1859, p. 15 [FHL 0,258,755]; Revision Book, Townland of Tamlaghtmore, Co. Tyrone, VAL/12B/37/10B, PRONI.

¹⁷ Revision Book, Townland of Tamlaghtmore, Co. Tyrone, VAL/12B/37/10F, PRONI.

¹⁸ Death certificate, Town Clerk's Office, Greenwich, Connecticut; Greenwich Probate District Records and Inventories 28:622–23 [FHL 1,434,415].

ABIGAIL (LOTHROP) HUNTINGTON'S SECOND HUSBAND, SAMUEL BAKER, OF WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

Don Blauvelt

According to the 1926 *Robinson Genealogy*, Samuel² Baker (*Rev. Nicholas*¹) moved from Barnstable, Massachusetts, to Connecticut after 1704 and married, as his second wife, Abigail (Lothrop) Huntington.^[1] Neither the Lothrop genealogy nor the Huntington genealogy,^[2] both earlier works, shows Abigail³ (Lothrop) Huntington (*Samuel*², *Rev. John*¹) with a second husband.

The 1917 Nicholas Baker genealogy^[3] was probably the first to infer a Baker-Lothrop marriage from Manwaring's abstract of Samuel Baker's probate:

7 June 1715: This Court grant letters of Adms. on the estate of Samuel Baker, *late of Windham* [emphasis added], decd., unto Abigail Baker, widow, and John Huntington, son in-law.^[4]

Thereafter, the marriage appeared in the Robinson genealogy as well as others by J. Montgomery Seaver, Mary Lovering Holman, Ethel Farrington Smith, and most recently in a volume of *The Great Migration*.^[5]

Samuel² Baker (*Rev. Nicholas*¹) was baptized at Hingham, Massachusetts, on 21 October 1638.^[6] His known wife was Fear² Robinson (*Isaac*¹, *Rev. John*^A), baptized by Rev. John¹ Lothrop at Barnstable on 26 January 1644/5.^[7] However, it was a different Samuel Baker who married Abigail (Lothrop) Huntington as her second husband.

¹ Charles Edson Robinson, *Robinson Genealogy: Descendants of Reverend John Robinson, Pastor of the Pilgrims* (Boston: Robinson Genealogical Society, 1926), 41–42.

² E. B. Huntington, *A Genealogical Memoir of the Lo-Lathrop Family in This Country* (Ridgefield, Conn.: J. M. Huntington, 1884), 48; *Genealogical Memoir of the Known Descendants of Simon Huntington* (Hartford, Conn.: Huntington Family Association, 1915), 352.

³ Fred A. Baker, *Genealogical Record of Rev. Nicholas Baker (1610–1678) and His Descendants* (Detroit: Record Printing Co., 1917), 20–22, which does note Manwaring's error but the author did not consider that there might have been another Samuel Baker.

⁴ Charles William Manwaring, *A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records, Hartford District*, 3 vols. (Hartford, Conn.: R. S. Peck, 1904–06; reprint Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1995), 2:152, from 8:256–57 of the original court record. In the colonial era, the term “son-in-law” often referred to a stepson.

⁵ J. Montgomery Seaver, *Baker Family Records* (Philadelphia: American Historical-Genealogical Society, 1929), 42; Mary Lovering Holman, “The Robinson Family,” *The American Genealogist*, 17 (1940–41):207–15; 18 (1941–42):45–55 at 46; Ethel Farrington Smith, “Seventeenth Century Hull, Massachusetts, and Her People,” *Register* 142 (1988):107–25 et seq., at 123–24; Robert Charles Anderson, George F. Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634–1635, Volume I A–B* (Boston: NEHGS, 1999), 143, citing Holman's article as the source.

⁶ Anderson et al., *Great Migration A–B* [note 5], 143.

⁷ Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633*, 3 vols. (Boston, 1995), 3:1593.

The key to identifying the correct Samuel Baker was to go back to the original probate. Manwaring had copied the 1715 entry for Samuel Baker incorrectly. Samuel Baker, the deceased husband of Abigail Baker, was “late of Windsor,” not “of Windham.”^[8] According to Windsor, Connecticut, vital records, Deacon Samuel Baker of Windsor died on 12 April 1715.^[9] Thus Abigail (Lothrop) Huntington married as her second husband Samuel² Baker of Windsor (*Jeffrey*¹), not Samuel² Baker of Barnstable (*Rev. Nicholas*¹).

ABIGAIL³ LOTHROP (*Samuel*², *Rev. John*¹), daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Scudder) Lothrop, was born at New London, Connecticut, on 11 May 1665.^[10] She married first at Norwich, Connecticut, on 9 December 1686, **JOHN³ HUNTINGTON** of Norwich (*Christopher*², *Simon*¹), born there on 15 March 1666, son of Christopher and Ruth (Rockwell) Huntington.^[11] By this marriage, five children were born at Norwich, four of whom grew to maturity.^[12] Abigail married second **SAMUEL BAKER**, for whom see below.

Although no probate for John Huntington has been found, he died sometime before the October 1703 session of the Connecticut General Assembly, whose records state:^[13]

This court doth remit to the widow Abigail Huntington what is due from her estate to the Colonie by the seizure of the inspector of Norwich, provided what estate is left out of the list be now added.

On 24 March 1714/5, the three daughters of the deceased John Huntington of Norwich signed a deed at Windsor, abstracted below in modern language:^[14]

Know all men by these presents that we Sheba Hall of the Town of Mansfield in the County of Hartford, and Abigail his wife, and Joseph Rockwell jun^r of the Town of Windsor and Hannah his wife, and Martha Huntington of the Town of Windsor with in said County, children and heirs female unto John Huntington late of the Town of Norwich in the County of New London Deceased for . . . the sum of Thirty-four pounds Sixteen Shillings and two pence in Countrey pay . . . paid by our loving brother John Huntington of the Town of Windsor and County of Hartford have given

⁸ Hartford District Probate Records, 8:256–57 [FHL 0,004,551].

⁹ Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, citing Windsor Vital Records, 2:218.

¹⁰ Huntington, *Lo-Lathrop Family* [note 2], 38–40; *Vital Records of Norwich, 1659–1848*, 2 vols. (Hartford, Conn.: Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Connecticut, 1913), 1:13, as one of nine children of “Samuell Lothrop Senior,” all born before their arrival in Norwich in 1668. For Abigail’s mother, see Jane Fletcher Fiske, “A New England Immigrant Kinship Network: Notes on the English Origins of the Scudders of Salem and Barnstable, Massachusetts . . .,” *The American Genealogist* 72 (1997):285–300 at 297.

¹¹ *Vital Records of Norwich* [note 10], 1:37 (birth and parents), 45 (marriage); Donald Lines Jacobus and Edgar Francis Waterman, *Hale, House and Related Families: Mainly of the Connecticut River Valley* (Hartford, Conn: Connecticut Historical Society, 1952), 649.

¹² *Vital Records of Norwich* [note 10], 1:45.

¹³ *The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1636–1776*, 15 vols. (Hartford, Conn.: Case, Lockwood & Brainard, 1850–90), 4:452.

¹⁴ Windsor Deeds, 2B:824, recorded 6 October 1715.

granted and sold . . . unto him the above said John Huntington all our right estate Interest or Claims in or unto all the Lands Tenements or hereditaments of right belonging to or in the possession of our said Honorable Father John Huntington Deceased . . . of which he died Seized of, To the said John Huntington.

In Confirmation whereof we have hereunto set our hands and Seals the 24th day of March anno 1714/5.

Signed Sealed and delivered	Sheba Hall
in presents of us	Abigail Hall
Roger Wolcott	Joseph Rockwell
Thomas Stoughton	Hannah Rockwell
	Martha Huntington

Note that about three weeks before the death of Samuel Baker of Windsor and about two and a half months before the 7 June 1715 grant of administration on the estate of Samuel Baker, three of the four surviving children of Abigail (Lothrop) (Huntington) Baker were living at Windsor.

SAMUEL² BAKER, the oldest child of Jeffrey¹ and Joan (Rockwell) Baker of Windsor, was born there on 30 March 1644,^[15] and died there on 12 April 1715. He married first at Windsor on 30 June 1670, **SARAH² COOK**,^[16] born there on 28 June 1650, and baptized there on 17 October 1652, daughter of Nathaniel¹ and Lydia (Vore) Cook.^[17] No evidence has been found that Samuel and Sarah had children. Samuel married second, between October 1703 and 2 October 1714, **ABIGAIL (LOTHROP) HUNTINGTON**, for whom see above.

Samuel's mother, Joan (Rockwell) Baker, was the daughter of William¹ and Susanna (Capen) Rockwell of Windsor.^[18] Joan's younger sister, Ruth Rockwell, married Christopher² Huntington and was the mother of John³ Huntington. Thus, Abigail's husbands were first cousins.

Samuel Baker was a freeman at Windsor in 1669 and was admitted to the church there on 7 April or September 1672 when he was living on his father's lot "east of the Great River." His wife had been admitted on 2 October 1670.^[19]

Samuel Baker's younger brother, Joseph Baker, died at Windsor on 11 December 1691.^[20] In his will, dated 5 October 1691, Joseph stated, "I doe desire

¹⁵ Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, citing Matthew Grant records at Windsor (unpaginated), for both birth and parents' marriage.

¹⁶ Henry R. Stiles, *The History and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Connecticut*, 2 vols. (Hartford: Case, Lockwood & Brainard, 1891–92; reprint Somersworth, N.H.: New Hampshire Publishing Co., 1976), 2:39.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 2:161–62; Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, citing Matthew Grant records at Windsor (unpaginated); John Insley Coddington, "A Clue to the English Home of Richard Voare (or Vore) of Dorchester and Windsor," *The American Genealogist* 26 (1950):65–70 at 68.

¹⁸ Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 7], 3:1596.

¹⁹ Stiles, *Ancient Windsor* [note 16], 1:873–74, 884; 2:39.

²⁰ Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, citing Windsor Vital Records, 1:41; Stiles, *Ancient Windsor* [note 16], 2:39, which says he died "1695 ('91?)," 162.

my deare and loving Brother Samuëll Baker with my loving naybour Job Drake to be the overseers.” On 13 April 1692 Joseph’s widow and Samuel Baker were appointed administrators with the will annexed.^[21]

On 27 August 1706 Samuel Baker and John Rockwell, both of Windsor, exchanged land there.^[22] On 25 January 1713/4 Joseph Baker’s son, also named Joseph, quitclaimed all his right, title and interest to all the lands of his “Hon’d grandfather Jeffery Baker” to his “Hon’d uncle Samuëll Baker of Windsor.”^[23] Six months before his death Samuel Baker conveyed all his real property in Windsor to his stepson, John Huntington:^[24]

Know all men by these presents that I Samuëll Baker of the township of Windsor and County of Hartford with the consent of my wife Abigail, For divers causes and considerations mee hereunto moving: Especially for the good will and affection I bear unto my dutifull son John Huntington of sd Windsor and alsoe the services he hath already done for mee, and in consideration of his readines to perform his duty and obligation to aforesd as [to provide] sutable maintenance during the term of our naturall Life, Have Given Granted Bargained . . . all that my housing and Land Lying and being within the township of Windsor . . . To him the sd John Huntington.

Dated Windsor October 2 Anno Dom 1714.

Signed Sealed and Delivered

Samuel Baker LS

In the presence of us

Abigail Baker LS

John Bartlett

Thomas Huntington Jun^r

Recorded November 14, 1714

Perhaps the gap in extant Windsor church records explains why there is no record of the marriage of Samuel Baker and Abigail (Lothrop) Huntington. There also is no record of children for Samuel Baker at Windsor 1705–1715, suggesting that Samuel and Abigail had no children. A search of Connecticut towns in which Abigail’s four Huntington children resided (Bolton, Mansfield, Tolland, East Windsor, and Windsor) yielded no indication of a subsequent third marriage for Abigail or a death date.

Most often genealogical corrections are important when there were children involved. Despite having no children, the correct identity of the Samuel Baker who was the second husband of Abigail (Lothrop) Huntington helps clarify the Baker families of early Connecticut and Massachusetts.

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²¹ Manwaring, *Digest of Early Connecticut Probate Records* [note 4], 1:401 (which includes his date of death); Hartford District Probate, file 262.

²² Windsor Deeds, 3:42.

²³ Windsor Deeds, 4:24–25, recorded 4 November 1714.

²⁴ Windsor Deeds, 4:25–26, recorded a second time at 4:75–76. On 12 December 1721 John sold the property, called fifty-five acres with buildings, to Matthew Grant of Windsor (*ibid.*, 5:28).

GENEALOGY OF SAMUEL PEIRCE, FIRST SETTLER OF ZOAR, MASSACHUSETTS

*Jon Wardlow**

According to Rev. David Field, the first settler of Zoar, Massachusetts was “Samuel Pierce from Woburn.”^[1] The family of this Samuel Peirce^[2] has not been thoroughly documented before. Frederic Beech Pierce briefly touched on this family in his 1882 *Pierce Genealogy*,^[3] with some detail about three of Samuel’s children but little about other children and grandchildren. The present article contains much new information about Samuel’s family, especially his wife and daughters, and corrects a few errors in the genealogy.

We begin with the parents of Samuel Peirce of Zoar.

1. SAMUEL⁴ PEIRCE, first-born child of Samuel³ Peirce (*Thomas*²⁻¹) and Lydia (Bacon) Peirce, was born at Woburn, Massachusetts, 25 November 1681.^[4] He died 26 January 1774, presumably at Mansfield, Connecticut.^[5] He married at Woburn 14 June 1705, **ABIGAIL JOHNSON**,^[6] born there 4 October 1674, daughter of Major William and Esther (Wiswall) Johnson.^[7] Abigail probably died before Samuel since she is not mentioned in his will.^[8]

* The author gives special thanks to Ellie Niedbala of the Hadley Historical Society and Dr. Marla Miller of the University of Massachusetts for their help with the diaries of Samuel’s brother Josiah Peirce; and to fellow Peirce descendant Diane Stowe of Ellington, Connecticut, who shared her Nelson research and visited cemeteries and courthouses in New England.

¹ David D. Field, ed., *A History of the County of Berkshire, Massachusetts* (Pittsfield, Mass: Samuel W. Bush, 1829), 461. Originally an unincorporated area of Berkshire County, Zoar was annexed in 1838 by Franklin County and was absorbed primarily into the town of Charlemont.

² It is clear from original documents that this family consistently spelled the name *Peirce*, so that spelling has been used throughout this article.

³ Frederic Beech Pierce with Frederick Clifton Pierce, ed., *Pierce Genealogy, Being the Record of the Posterity of Thomas Pierce, an Early Inhabitant of Charlestown, and Afterwards Charlestown Village (Woburn), in New England* (Worcester, Mass.: Chas. Hamilton, 1882) 57–58, 101–02. Samuel⁵ Peirce is number 199.

⁴ Edward F. Johnson, ed., *Woburn Records of Births, Deaths, Marriages, from 1640 to 1873*, 10 vols. (Woburn, Mass.: Andrews, Cutler & Co., 1890–1919), 1:194 (birth); 3:14, 209 (parents’ marriage).

⁵ Gravestone inscription of “Mr. Samuel Peirce Con^t of Mrs. Abigail Peirce,” in Old Storrs Cemetery, Storrs, Mansfield, Connecticut (read by Diane Stowe 17 February 2004); Josiah Peirce’s diaries (interleaved by month in *Ames’s Almanacks*), with separate diaries for each of the years 1741–47, 1754–55, 1759, 1769, and 1771–79, at the Hadley Historical Society, Hadley, Massachusetts: [26 January 1774] “This day my father died.”

⁶ *Woburn Records* [note 4], 3:142, 209.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 1:128. It had not been clear *which* Abigail Johnson married Samuel⁴ Peirce. In 1868 Samuel Sewall claimed that she was the daughter of Major William² Johnson (*Edward*¹) (Samuel Sewall, *The History of Woburn, Middlesex County, Mass.* [Boston: Wiggin and Lunt, 1868], 168, repeated in *Register* 59 [1905]:82). This would make Abigail seven years older than her husband,

On 23 August 1734, “Samuell Peirce of the Town of Woburn . . . Husbandman” purchased 120 acres in Mansfield from Abigail’s nephew, William Johnson of Mansfield.^[9] Samuel’s family moved to Mansfield shortly thereafter.

The will of Samuel Peirce of Mansfield, dated 12 February 1767 and proved 14 February 1774, mentions son Samuel Peirce, son Josiah Peirce, daughter Abigail Wyman, daughter Esther Dimmock, granddaughter Esther “the Daughter of my son Sam^{ll},” and sons Seth and Enoch.^[10]

Children of Samuel⁴ and Abigail (Johnson) Peirce, all born at Woburn:^[11]

- 2 i. SAMUEL⁵ PEIRCE, b. 3 June 1706; m. ABIGAIL FLAGG.
- ii. JOSIAH PEIRCE, b. 13 July 1708; m. Hadley, Mass., 17 Nov. 1743 Miriam Cook.^[12]
- iii. ABIGAIL PEIRCE, b. 28 Feb. 1710/1; m. Woburn 7 Jan. 1733 ZEBADIAH WYMAN.^[13]
- iv. ESTHER PEIRCE, b. 7 Feb. 1713/4; m. Mansfield, Conn., 25 Jan. 1739[40?] SHUBAEL DIMMICK.^[14]
- v. SETH PEIRCE, b. 30 Nov. 1716; m. Mansfield 10 Nov. 1743 ELIZABETH NYE.^[15]
- vi. ENOCH PEIRCE, b. 22 March 1718/9; m. Mansfield 15 March 1743/4 MARY MASON.^[16]

which was unusual. However, a newly-discovered deed proves that Sewall was correct; two of Major William Johnson’s sons, “Edward Johnson and Ebenezer Johnson both of Woburn,” sold land on 10 June 1708 to “our Brother-in-Law Samuel Peirce Jun^r of [Woburn]” (Middlesex County Deeds, 25:659 [FHL 0,554,013]).

⁸ The *Pierce Genealogy* [note 3], 38, says Abigail died 16 March 1787. This must be an error, since her husband made no mention of her in his 1767 will, and she would have died at an incredible 112 years old. Hale’s 1934 reading of Old Storrs Cemetery shows Abigail buried beside her husband Samuel: “Peirce, Abigail, consort of Mr. Samuel Peirce, died Mar. 18, 1779, age 86 yrs.” (Charles R. Hale, “Charles R. Hale Collection [of Cemetery Inscriptions and Newspaper Notices of Marriages and Deaths],” (1933–34), Mansfield, 75). However, this date is also doubtful since the page for March 1779 for Josiah Peirce’s diary [note 5] has survived, and it makes no mention of his mother’s death that month. The actual gravestone in Old Storrs Cemetery is now severely eroded, so a new reading is impossible. Hale later gives an out-of-order reading (Mansfield, 76) that may be an alternate reading of Abigail’s damaged stone: “Peirce, ---, consort of Samuel Peirce, died Mar. 18, 1761 age 7 [sic] yrs.” A death in 1761 would yield an age at death of 86, comparable to Hale’s original reading.

⁹ Mansfield Deeds, 3:539–41 [FHL 0,004,867]. For more on William⁴ Johnson of Woburn and Mansfield, see *Register* 59 (1905):143.

¹⁰ Windham District Probate, packet #3042, Samuel Peirce, Mansfield, 1774 [FHL 1,032,680], 8:480–81 [FHL 0,005,933].

¹¹ *Woburn Records* [note 4], 1:195. Double dates have been compared to Woburn vital records, “Birth, intentions, marriages, deaths” [FHL 0,859,998].

¹² Hadley, Massachusetts, vital records, “Marriages 1730–1800, Intentions 1747–1799, Births by Family” [FHL 0,186,152 Item 3], 2.

¹³ *Woburn Records* [note 4], 3:210, 315. It is unclear whether this was 1732/3 or 1733/4.

¹⁴ Susan W. Dimock, *Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths from the Records of the Town and Churches of Mansfield, Connecticut 1703–1850* (New York: Baker & Taylor, 1898), 232.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 271.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

2. SAMUEL⁵ PEIRCE (*Samuel⁴⁻³, Thomas²⁻¹*), was born at Woburn, Massachusetts, 3 June 1706. The Leonard genealogy says that he died at Zoar, Massachusetts, 4 November 1775.^[17] This date is confirmed by his brother Josiah's diary, which shows that his brother Samuel died on 4 November 1775 at 2 a.m.^[18] Samuel married by 1733 **ABIGAIL FLAGG**,^[19] born about 1711,^[20] probably at Woburn, daughter of Gershom³ (*Gershom², Thomas¹*) and Hannah (_____) Flagg.^[21] Abigail died at Charlemont, Massachusetts, shortly before 13 April 1794.^[22] The will of "Gershom Flegg of Woburn . . . Tanner," dated 19 October 1754 and proved 13 June 1757, gives five shillings to "my Daughter Abigail Pearce."^[23] There were six married women named Abigail Peirce recorded in Woburn 1700–1780, but of these six, only Samuel⁵ Peirce's wife Abigail is unidentified in vital records.^[24] Furthermore, Samuel and Abigail Peirce's deed of 24 May 1734 (probably the first after their marriage) was witnessed by "Gershom Flegg Jun^r."^[25] Samuel and Abigail named their second son Gershom, and their first son Samuel⁶ named a daughter Abigail Flag Peirce.

¹⁷ Manning Leonard, *Memorial: Genealogical, Historical, and Biographical of Solomon Leonard, 1637, of Duxbury and Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and Some of his Descendants* (Auburn, Mass.: Knapp, Peck & Thomson, 1896), 77. This genealogy, while useful, is not always reliable.

¹⁸ Josiah Peirce's diary [note 5], November 1775: On the facing leaf, Josiah had entered for 3 November, "This night at 2 in mor. Br. Sam. Died."

¹⁹ Some genealogies have incorrectly assumed that Samuel's wife Abigail was Abigail Pool, who married a Samuel Peirce at Gloucester, Massachusetts, 21 November 1728 (*Vital Records of Gloucester, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Topsfield, Mass.: Topsfield Historical Society; Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1917–24), 2:426, 431). But *Register* 6 (1852):277–78 and 21 (1867):62–63 make it clear that Samuel Peirce of Gloucester was a different man, a shipbuilder who came to Gloucester from Duxbury, Massachusetts, around 1713 and had already had at least three children by a first wife.

²⁰ Abigail's brief obituary says she was age 83 when she died (*Columbian Centinel*, 23 April 1794, p. 3, col. 2 [Early American Newspapers online database, infoweb.newsbank.com]).

²¹ Only six children of Gershom³ and Hannah (_____) Flagg were recorded in *Woburn Records* [note 4], 1:92; 2:68, and as a result, only these six are shown in Henry Bond, *Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the Early Settlers of Watertown, Massachusetts*, 2nd ed. (Boston: NEHGS, 1860), 1:220; 2:763. Abigail was not among these six.

²² Abigail's obituary says she died at Charlemont, leaving 118 descendants, but it gives no date of death. The obituary was published in the semiweekly *Columbian Centinel* on 23 April 1794 [note 20]. Her son Josiah Peirce gave bond as her executor on 13 April 1794 (Hampshire County Probate, box 114, file #24).

²³ Middlesex County Probate, file #7756, Garshom Flagg, 1755 [*sic*] [FHL 0,397,058].

²⁴ The six Abigail Peirces who either are recorded in Woburn's death records (*Woburn Records* [note 4], 2:146) or appear as mothers in Woburn's birth records 1700–1780 (1:195–96) are: the wife of Samuel⁵ Peirce (unknown until now); the wife of Samuel⁴ Peirce (Abigail Johnson, married 14 June 1705, as above); the wife of William Peirce (Abigail Somers "alias Warren," married 8 April 1690, 3:209); the wife of Zurishaddai Peirce (Abigail Johnson, married 24 July 1728, 3:210); the wife of Joseph Peirce (Abigail Green, married 10 November 1742, 3:210); and the wife of Jacob Peirce (Abigail Kendall, married with intentions at Woburn dated 18 August 1752, 10:135).

²⁵ Middlesex County Deeds, 36:317 [FHL 0,554,020].

In 1735 or 1736, Samuel⁵ Peirce left Woburn and followed his parents to Mansfield, Connecticut.^[26] In 1740 or 1741 Samuel returned to Massachusetts, settling in the new town of Holden.^[27]

The family remained in Holden for about twenty years. Samuel purchased several tracts of land there, at one point owning around two hundred acres.^[28] In 1743 Samuel became one of the two original deacons of Holden's Congregational Church.^[29] In 1754 Samuel petitioned the General Court in Boston on behalf of the proprietors of Holden, regarding a tax to complete the church's meeting house.^[30] By 1759 he was serving on a tax collection committee for Holden.^[31]

Samuel and Abigail left Holden for Leicester, Massachusetts, in early 1762,^[32] and then moved to Charlemont, Massachusetts in May 1764.^[33] *The History of Berkshire County* claims that Samuel in 1766 went to Zoar (which was then an unincorporated part of Berkshire County).^[34] A 1768 deed confirms that Samuel was "of no Town but in the County of Berkshire yet adjacent to Charlemont in the County of Hampshire."^[35]

²⁶ "Sam^l Peirce of Woburn" purchased land in Mansfield 13 May 1735 (Mansfield Deeds, 3:601 [FHL 0,004,867]). The family was still in Woburn on 9 September 1735, when daughter Jerusha was born there (*Woburn Records* [note 4], 1:195). They were in Mansfield by 19 September 1736, when daughters Abigail and Jerusha were baptized there (Mansfield First Congregational Church Records, Connecticut State Library [FHL 1,010,746 Item 5], A:40).

²⁷ "Sam^l Peirce J^r of Mansfield" purchased sixty acres in Holden 12 February 1739/40 (Worcester County Deeds, 14:440–42). The family was still in Mansfield on 18 May 1740, when daughter Hannah was baptized there (Mansfield Church Records [note 26], A:43, Hannah recorded as "Sarah"). Samuel was "of Holdin" by 14 March 1740/1 (Worcester County Deeds, 13:451).

²⁸ Worcester County Deeds, 13:451; 14:440; 27:359; 28:443; 35:323; 36:54, 55, 369; 39:373; 41:166; 43:156; 44:259; 45:493, 537; 48:192, 506, 578; 49:27, 329.

²⁹ Samuel C. Damon, *The History of Holden, Massachusetts, 1667–1841* (Worcester, Mass.: Wallace and Ripley, 1841), 107.

³⁰ SC1/series 45X, Massachusetts Archives Collection, 13:589–90.

³¹ Worcester County Deeds, 41:361; 44:118.

³² "Samuel Peirce of Holden" purchased land in Leicester from David Lynde 13 August 1761 (Worcester County Deeds, 44:259–60; 49:329). Samuel was still "of Holden" 4 November 1761 (Worcester County Deeds, 45:493). "Samuel Peirce late of Holden . . . but now of Leicester" mortgaged land in Leicester 30 March 1762 (Worcester County Deeds, 45:537). The Holden Congregational Church selected a new deacon, apparently to take Samuel's place, on 31 March 1762 (*History of Holden* [note 29], 107).

³³ "Sam^l Peirce of Holden" purchased land in Charlemont from David Lynde 26 June 1761 (Hampshire County Deeds, 2:639 [FHL 0,845,689]). Samuel was still "of Liecester" 21 May 1764 (Hampshire County Deeds, 5:566–67 [FHL 0,845,692]). Samuel was "late of Liecester now of Charlemont" a week later, 28 May 1764 (Hampshire County Deeds, 6:942 [FHL 0,845,693]).

³⁴ Field, *History of Berkshire County* [note 1], 461.

³⁵ Hampshire County Deeds, 9:252–53 [FHL 0,845,695]. This sale involved "Land Granted and Confirmed to us by the Great and General Court of this Province in y^e year 1767 being part of three thousand acres then Granted and Confirmed to Hezekiah Ward and others to make good to them such Damage as [we] suffered and sustained by the Town of Charlemont proving 400 rods too short in the first survey."

The last record of Samuel was on 4 October 1775, when “Samuel Peirce of a place called Zoar lying between Charlemont and Hoosuck Mountain” deeded a total of 594 acres in Zoar to “my sons Samuel & Gershom Peirce.”^[36]

No probate has been found for Samuel although the 1781 estate of his son Seth showed a debt owed to “the Estate of Samuel Pierce Deceas^d.”^[37] Fortunately, Samuel’s widow Abigail left a will, dated 10 January 1792 and proved 6 May 1794:^[38]

I Abigail Peirce of the Town of Charlemont . . . Widdow being very sick and weak in body; but of perfect mind and Memory . . . to my well beloved daughter Eliza-beth . . . to my well beloved daughter Abigail . . . to my well beloved Daughter Ester . . . to my well beloved daughter Ruth . . . to my well beloved Daughter Relief . . . to the Heirs of my Daughter Jerusha . . . to the Heirs of my Daughter Judith . . . to my well beloved Daughter Hannah . . . to my two Sons Samuel & Josiah . . . Also I constitute my Son Josiah, make and Ordain him the sole Executor.

Children of Samuel⁵ and Abigail (Flagg) Peirce:^[39]

- 3 i. ABIGAIL⁶ PEIRCE, b. Woburn, Mass., 21 Sept. 1733; m. SAMUEL GARFIELD.
- 4 ii. JERUSHA PEIRCE, b. Woburn 9 Sept. 1735; m. DAVID LYNDE.
- 5 iii. ESTHER PEIRCE, b. Mansfield, Conn., 3 Sept. 1737; m. JOHN BIRGE.
- 6 iv. HANNAH PEIRCE, b. Mansfield 30 March 1740; m. ANDREW LEONARD.
- 7 v. ELIZABETH PEIRCE, b. Holden, Mass., 10 May 1742; m. THOMAS NICHOLS.
- 8 vi. SAMUEL PEIRCE, b. Holden 31 July 1743; m. ANNA _____.
- 9 vii. RUTH PEIRCE, b. Holden 6 Nov. 1745; m. MOSES RICE.
- viii. GERSHOM PEIRCE, b. Holden 14 April 1747. Gershom served in the Revolution for six weeks in early 1777, at Ticonderoga. In July 1777 he and his brother-in-law Lt. Thomas Nichols joined Capt. Samuel Taylor’s company. By August the company was probably encamped with the bulk of the northern army near Stillwater, N.Y. Gershom was discharged 8 Aug. 1777 (four days before the rest of his unit), a hundred miles from home.^[40] He evidently never made it home; the *Pierce Genealogy* says Gershom “d. at Albany in Rev. Army, 1777.”^[41] No probate record has been found for Gershom, and he apparently left no heirs, as none are mentioned in his mother’s will.
- ix. JUDITH PEIRCE, b. Holden 16 April 1749; d. sometime before 10 Jan. 1792 (date of her mother’s will). Based on her mother’s will, Judith must have married and had children, but no record of either has yet been found. The *Pierce*

³⁶ Berkshire County North Deeds, 11:488, 490, 492 [FHL 0,879,517].

³⁷ Berkshire County Probate, 3:195 [FHL 0,873,481].

³⁸ Hampshire County Probate, box 114, file #24; 18:316–17 [FHL 0,879,192].

³⁹ The first two children were born at Woburn (*Woburn Records* [note 4], 1:195), the next two were born at Mansfield (*Records of Mansfield* [note 14], 141), and the remaining children were born at Holden (*Vital Records of Holden, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1904], 71–72).

⁴⁰ *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1897–1908), 11:415; 12:80, 369.

⁴¹ *Pierce Genealogy* [note 3], 58.

Genealogy errs in saying she married David Lynds,^[42] confusing Judith with her sister Jerusha.

- 10 x. JOSIAH PEIRCE, b. Holden 7 March 1751; m. MIRIAM PEIRCE.
- xi. SETH PEIRCE, b. Holden 30 March 1753; d. before 6 Nov. 1781, when his brother Josiah was appointed administrator of “the estate of Seth Pierce late of a place called Pierce’s Grant adjoining Charlemont.”^[43] The *Pierce Genealogy* says Seth died unmarried,^[44] and no heirs are mentioned in either his probate records or his mother’s will.
- 11 xii. RELIEF PEIRCE, b. Holden 2 April 1755; m. DANIEL NELSON.

3. ABIGAIL⁶ PEIRCE (*Samuel*⁵⁻⁴⁻³, *Thomas*²⁻¹), was born at Woburn, Massachusetts, 21 September 1733. She died at Spencer, Massachusetts, 23 January 1816.^[45] She married at Spencer 27 May 1756, as his second wife, **SAMUEL GARFIELD**,^[46] born at Weston, Massachusetts, 11 April 1720, son of Lt. Thomas and Mercy (Bigelow) Garfield.^[47] Samuel died at Spencer 22 June 1792.^[48] Samuel had married first at Weston 17 April 1751 Hannah Garfield,^[49] who died at Spencer 27 July 1755, nine days after bearing her only child.^[50]

No probate has been found for either Samuel or Abigail; they sold all their land to son Joseph three years before Samuel’s death.^[51] Several of their children moved to southwestern New Hampshire by 1800. The best documented move was by eldest son Samuel; he reported that after living “in Spencer . . . at his fathers” during the Revolution, he next “lived in Conway a few years, Thence moved [to] Charlestown N.Hampshire,” and after “about fifteen years” there, moved to Langdon, New Hampshire in 1796.^[52]

⁴² *Pierce Genealogy* [note 3], 58.

⁴³ Berkshire County Probate, 3:154 [FHL 0,873,481].

⁴⁴ *Pierce Genealogy* [note 3], 58.

⁴⁵ *Vital Records of Spencer, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1909), 242.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, 190; Records of the Congregational Church, Spencer, Massachusetts [FHL 0,845,609], A:74. *Vital Records of Holden* [note 40], 167, says 21 May 1756, evidently a misreading.

⁴⁷ *Town of Weston [Massachusetts]: Births, Deaths and Marriages 1707–1850, Gravestones 1703–1900, Church Records 1709–1825* (Boston: McIndoe Bros., 1901), 9; *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 43 (gives New Style 22 April 1720 vs. Old Style 11 April 1720); *Watertown Records*, 8 vols. (Watertown, Mass.: Fred G. Barker, 1894–1939), 2:23 (in “Records of Birth Death and Marriage”) (parents’ marriage). See also Bond, *Early Settlers of Watertown* [note 21], 1:232–34. “Samuel Gearfield, of Weston” bought 80 acres in “the westerly precinct of Leicester” (now Spencer) on 26 November 1748 (Worcester County Deeds, 27:428).

⁴⁸ *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 242.

⁴⁹ *Weston Births, Deaths and Marriages* [note 47], 75; *Vital Records of Waltham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1904), 156.

⁵⁰ *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 44 (child’s birth), 242 (Hannah’s death).

⁵¹ Worcester County Deeds, 107:115, 202.

⁵² Samuel Garfield’s declaration for pension, 26 July 1832, file S16385 (Samuel Garfield, Massachusetts), Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files (NARA film M805, roll 349).

Children of Samuel and Abigail (Peirce) Garfield, all born and/or baptized at Spencer.^[53]

- i. SAMUEL GARFIELD, b. 5 March 1757; m. 20 Nov. 1783 SALLY HARRIS.^[54]
- ii. JOSEPH GARFIELD, b. 19 Sept. 1758; m. Princeton, Mass., 12 Jan. 1790 ELIZABETH MIRICK.^[55]
- iii. DANIEL GARFIELD, b. 29 Sept. 1760; m. Princeton 17 Feb. 1788 DOROTHY MIRICK.^[56]
- iv. JOSIAH GARFIELD, b. 12 Oct. 1762; perhaps he was the man who m. at Shutesbury, Mass. 10 June 1798 POLLY BALL.^[57]
- v. ABIGAIL GARFIELD, b. 28 Aug. 1764; m. Spencer 2 July 1789 PHILIP BAILEY.^[58]
- vi. ENOCH GARFIELD, b. 28 Sept. 1766; m. 18 Aug. 1796, possibly at Rockingham, Vt., PATTY POWERS.^[59]
- vii. ELISHA GARFIELD, b. 25 April 1769; m. (1) (int. Charlestown, N.H., 9 Oct. 1796) POLLY VANCE,^[60] who d. Langdon 16 Jan. 1820,^[61] m. (2) 26 Dec. 1820 BATHSHEBA (EGERTON) STEARNS.^[62]
- viii. JOHN GARFIELD, b. 26 July 1771; m. (int. Charlestown 5 Jan. 1800) SUSANNA ROGERS.^[63]
- ix. ELIZABETH GARFIELD, b. 15 Sept. 1773; m. (int. Charlestown 17 Feb. 1799) ISAAC OSGOOD.^[64]

⁵³ *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 43–44. See also Frank Burnside Kingsbury, *History and Genealogical Register of the Town of Langdon, Sullivan County, New Hampshire* (White River Junction, Vt.: Right Printing, 1932), 415.

⁵⁴ Kingsbury, *Town of Langdon* [note 53], 415.

⁵⁵ *Vital Records of Princeton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Worcester, Mass: Franklin P. Rice, 1902), 98, 118; *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 158, 183.

⁵⁶ *Vital Records of Princeton* [note 55], 98, 118.

⁵⁷ Shutesbury, Massachusetts, vital records 1:35 (*Massachusetts Vital Records: Shutesbury 1746–1900*, 20 microfiche [Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 1987], fiche 6, image 20). This marriage record calls the groom “Joseph Gaffield,” but the corresponding intentions (1:18, fiche 6, image 11) calls him “Josiah Gaffield,” Both records say he is “of Northampton,” which is far removed from the rest of this family. Kingsbury, *Town of Langdon* [note 53], 416, shows this marriage, but seems uncertain he was the same Josiah Garfield.

⁵⁸ *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 157.

⁵⁹ Thomas Bellows Peck, ed., *Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont . . . and Records of the First Church of Rockingham, Vermont . . .* (Pittsford, Vt.: Genealogical Society of Vermont, 1994), 42; Kingsbury, *Town of Langdon* [note 53], 415.

⁶⁰ Transcript of Charlestown, New Hampshire, town records [FHL 0,015,092–093], 3:65. The town’s early marriage records and marriage intentions were also published in Henry H. Saunderson, *History of Charlestown, New-Hampshire, the Old No. 4* (Claremont, N.H.: Claremont Mfg., 1876), 654ff.

⁶¹ Kingsbury, *Town of Langdon* [note 53], 416.

⁶² Seth Chandler, *History of the Town of Shirley, Massachusetts* (Shirley, Mass.: the author, 1883), 401. While Bathsheba’s marriage to Elisha Garfield is not recorded at Langdon, her 11 May 1806 marriage to Benjamin Stearns is recorded there (transcript of Langdon, New Hampshire, town records [FHL 0,015,196], 1:611, from original town records 1:509.)

⁶³ Transcript of Charlestown town records [note 60], 3:67; Saunderson, *History of Charlestown* [note 60], 664, gives this intention date as 13 August 1799, apparently an error. Kingsbury, *Town of Langdon* [note 53], 418, claims the marriage took place 16 February 1800.

⁶⁴ Transcript of Charlestown town records [note 60], 3:66.

- x. SILAS GARFIELD, b. 19 Jan. 1776; m. (1) Charlestown 21 June 1799 RUTH ELLSWORTH;^[65] m. (2) Spencer or Oakham, Mass., 1 Feb. 1815 SALLY BOTHWELL;^[66] perhaps m. (3) _____.^[67]
- xi. WILLIAM GARFIELD, bp. 15 April 1778; d. 23 April 1778,^[68] probably at Spencer.

4. JERUSHA⁶ PEIRCE (*Samuel⁵⁻⁴⁻³, Thomas²⁻¹*), was born at Woburn, Massachusetts, 9 September 1735. She died sometime between 20 August 1775 (church dismissal) and 10 January 1792 (date of her mother's will), probably in the vicinity of Claremont, New Hampshire. She married at Holden, Massachusetts, 6 February 1755, **DAVID LYNDE**,^[69] born at Leicester, Massachusetts, 15 May 1724, son of John and Hannah (Nichols) Lynde.^[70] David died 11 May 1791 age 66, presumably at Charlestown, New Hampshire.^[71]

David Lynde originally had a farm in Leicester (described as "the last House in Leicester, next to Spencer"). On 10 July 1759, his house and barn were destroyed by a tornado.^[72] In August 1761, David sold his farm in Leicester to Jerusha's father, Samuel⁵ Peirce.^[73] The following year, David became one of the two original settlers of Claremont, New Hampshire.^[74] However, not until 20 August 1775 was "Jerusha y^e wife of David Lynde" dismissed from the Congregational Church in Spencer, Massachusetts, and recommended "to y^e C^{hh} in Claremont."^[75]

⁶⁵ Ibid., 3:39, 67.

⁶⁶ *Vital Records of Oakham, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass: Franklin P. Rice, 1905) 60, 74; *Vital Records of Spencer* [note 45], 139, 158.

⁶⁷ Kingsbury, *Town of Langdon* [note 53], 415, says that Silas Garfield was married "thrice."

⁶⁸ Ibid., 415.

⁶⁹ *Vital Records of Holden* [note 3940], 155, 166 (marriage); *Vital Records of Leicester, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1903), 180 (intentions). *Pierce Genealogy* [note 3], 58, omits Jerusha completely, and shows David Lynde being married instead to Jerusha's sister Judith. Edward Francis Johnson claimed in 1905 that David Lynde married Rebecca Johnson, Jerusha's second cousin (*Register* 59 [1905]:144); *Vital Records of Leicester*, 180, shows that Rebecca Johnson's husband was actually David's brother, Daniel Lynde.

⁷⁰ *Vital Records of Leicester* [note 69], 60 (birth); Deloraine P. Corey, ed., *Births Marriages and Deaths in the Town of Malden, Massachusetts 1649-1850* (Cambridge, Mass.: University Press, 1903), 262, 271 (parents' marriage); *Woburn Records* [note 4], 3:171, 193 (parents' marriage). See also Emory Washburn, *Historical Sketches of the Town of Leicester, Massachusetts* (Boston: John Wilson and Son, 1860), 382-83.

⁷¹ Card index, Hubbard Cemetery, Charlestown, New Hampshire [FHL 1,004,700 Item 6].

⁷² *Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser*, 16 July 1759, p. 3, col. 2; *Boston News-Letter*, 19 July 1759, p. 1, col. 3 (Early American Newspapers online database, infoweb.newsbank.com).

⁷³ Worcester County Deeds, 44:259-60. In a separate transaction, David's wife Jerusha sold her dower in this farm to "my Father Samuel Peirce of Holden" (Worcester County Deeds, 49:329).

⁷⁴ John Farmer and Jacob B. Moore, *Gazetteer of the State of New-Hampshire* (Concord, N.H.: Jacob B. Moore, 1823), 103; repeated in *New Hampshire Provincial and State Papers*, 40 vols. (Concord and Manchester, N.H.: 1867-1943), 11:363.

⁷⁵ Congregational Church, Spencer [note 46], A:75

On 18 May 1791, Jonas Lynde of Charlestown gave bond as administrator of “the Estate of David Lynde late of said Charlestown yeoman deceased.”^[76] Real estate records show that a one-sixth share of David’s land was inherited by each of six children: Jonas Lynds of Charlestown, Jerusha Lyndes of Claremont, Nabby Lynds of Charlestown, Judea Lynds of Charlestown, Hannah Farnsworth of Fairfax, Vermont (wife of Oliver Farnsworth, Jun^r), and Polly Lynds of Guildford, Vermont.^[77]

Children of David and Jerusha (Peirce) Lynde:^[78]

- i. JERUSHA LYNDE, b. Leicester, Mass., 15 Sept. 1755; m. Springfield, Vt., 20 Dec. 1801 NICHOLAS WILLIAMS.^[79]
- ii. DAVID LYNDE, b. Leicester 10 Dec. 1756; living 1776.^[80]
- iii. CHARLES LYNDE, b. Leicester 4 Aug. 1758; d. between 14 Feb. 1785 and 22 Oct. 1792.^[81]
- iv. HANNAH LYNDE, b. Leicester 1 Dec. 1760; m. Charlestown, N.H., 27 Aug. 1788 OLIVER FARNSWORTH, Jr.^[82]
- v. POLLY LYNDE, b. say 1763; living unmarried at Guilford, Vt., 1794.^[83]
- vi. JONAS LYNDE, b. Claremont, N.H., 15 Sept. 1765,^[84] m. Charlestown 10 Dec. 1792 BEULAH HARRIS.^[85]
- vii. ABIGAIL LYNDE, b. Claremont 5 Feb. 1767;^[86] living unmarried at Charlestown 1793.^[87]
- viii. PETER LYNDE, b. Cornish, N.H., 3 Sept. 1769; d. Cornish 20 Sept. 1769.^[88]

⁷⁶ Cheshire County Probate, probate file L #10 (“Lynde, David, Charlestown, Adm^m 1791”) [FHL 2,217,583 Item 2].

⁷⁷ Cheshire County Deeds, 25:428–31. Each of David’s five daughters sold her “one sixth part” to their brother Jonas; their deeds all refer to David Lynde as “our hon^d father.”

⁷⁸ The first four children were born at Leicester (*Vital Records of Leicester* [note 69], 60–61.

⁷⁹ Springfield, Vermont, town records [FHL 0,028,962 Item 1], 1:105. A document in David Lynde’s probate file [note 77], dated “Springfield May 21st 1793” and signed by Jerusha, confirms that the “Jerusha Lyne” in Springfield was indeed David Lynde’s daughter.

⁸⁰ “David Lynds Jun” served in the Continental Army in 1776 (*New Hampshire State Papers* [note 74], 14:263; 30:34).

⁸¹ A deed made by three of David Lynde’s daughters on 22 October 1792 (Cheshire County Deeds, 25:428–31), shows that David’s land was divided among only six children, and Charles was not one of them. On 14 February 1785, the State of New Hampshire issued a payment to “Charles Lynde” related to his 1777 military service (*New Hampshire State Papers* [note 74], 20:274; his Revolutionary War service is described at 14:578, 592; 15:438, 716; 16:605; 30:34).

⁸² Transcript of Charlestown town records [note 60], 2:594, 650. Saunderson, *History of Charlestown* [note 60], 345, errs in calling Oliver’s wife *Sarah* Lynd. This error has been followed by later writers.

⁸³ Cheshire County Deeds, 25:430–31 (Polly’s deed, dated 22 September 1794).

⁸⁴ Transcript of Charlestown town records [note 60], 2:609.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, 2:596, 654.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, 2:609.

⁸⁷ Document in David Lynde’s probate file [note 76], dated “Charlestown May 21st 1793” and signed by Abigail (“Naby Lynds”).

⁸⁸ Transcript of Cornish, New Hampshire, town records [FHL 2,230,739 Items 1 and 3], 1:184, apparently from original town records 1:146; William H. Child, *History of the Town of*

- ix. JUDITH LYNDE, b. Cornish 8 Oct. 1770;^[89] m. 5 Oct. 1797 JOSIAH FARNSWORTH.^[90]

5. **ESTHER⁶ PEIRCE** (*Samuel⁵⁻⁴⁻³, Thomas²⁻¹*), was born at Mansfield, Connecticut, 3 September 1737. She died at Deerfield, Massachusetts, 13 November 1803.^[91] She married about 1770 **JOHN BIRGE**,^[92] born at Northampton, Massachusetts, 22 February 1727, son of John and Experience (Stebbins) Birge.^[93] John Birge moved from Northampton to Deerfield around 1768.^[94] He was still living in 1800.^[95] Both Sheldon's *History of Deerfield* and Trumbull's *History of Northampton* mention John Birge as a soldier in the French and Indian War.^[96]

The records of the Congregational Church in Spencer, Massachusetts, show that "Esther Peirce" was admitted to the church 25 December 1757.^[97] In 1774, "Ester Birge, formerly Esther Pierce, being a member of this chh, but having removed from among us, desired to have her relation transferred from this chh to the chh in Deerfield — Accordingly her dismissal was voted. March the 6,

Cornish, New Hampshire, with Genealogical Record 1763–1910, 2 vols. (Concord, N.H.: Rumford Press, 1911), 2:266.

⁸⁹ Transcript of Cornish town records [note 88], 1:184; *History of the Town of Cornish* [note 89], 2:266.

⁹⁰ Moses Franklin Farnsworth, *Farnsworth Memorial: Being a Record of Matthias Farnsworth and his Descendants in America* (Manti, Utah: L. A. Lauber, 1897), 76.

⁹¹ Records of Deerfield's First Congregational Church say Esther died age 69 (Thomas W. Baldwin, ed., *Vital Records of Deerfield Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* [Boston: NEHGS, 1920], 266). Her gravestone says "Esther Birge died Nov. 13. 1803, in the 66 year of her age" (C. Alice Baker and Emma L. Coleman, ed., *Epitaphs in the Old Burying-Ground at Deerfield, Mass.* [Deerfield, Mass.: Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Assn., 1924], 13).

⁹² *Pierce Genealogy* [note 3], 58, calls him John *Birch*. Esther was unmarried on 27 August 1761 when she witnessed her sister Jerusha's deed as "Esther Peirce" (Worcester County Deeds, 49:329). She was probably still unmarried on 12 February 1767 when her grandfather Samuel⁴ Peirce referred to her in his will as "Granddaughter Esther the Daughter of my son Sam^{ll}."

⁹³ Birth from Northampton, Massachusetts, vital records, "Births Marriages and Deaths" [FHL 0,186,161 Item 2], 1:70. His mother's maiden name is from James Russell Trumbull, "Northampton Genealogies, 1640–1838," typescript, n.d. [FHL 0,186,158], 53; George Sheldon, *A History of Deerfield, Massachusetts*, 2 vols. (Deerfield, Mass.: Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Assn., 1896), 2:319; Ralph Stebbins Greenlee and Robert Lemuel Greenlee, *The Stebbins Genealogy*, 2 vols. (Chicago: R. S. Greenlee, 1904), 1:117 (Experience Stebbins married _____ Birge).

⁹⁴ "John Birge of Northampton" purchased land in Deerfield 18 May 1767, and he was "of Deerfield" by 8 February 1769 when he sold the land (Hampshire County Deeds, 9:297–99).

⁹⁵ 1800 U.S. Census, Deerfield, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, roll 15, p. 52.

⁹⁶ James Russell Trumbull, *History of Northampton, Massachusetts*, 2 vols. (Northampton, Mass.: Gazette Printing, 1898–1902), 2:290, 510; Sheldon, *History of Deerfield* [note 93], 2:84. Both sources refer to this John as John Birge, Jr.

⁹⁷ Congregational Church, Spencer [note 46], A:71. The next entry in the church records is the admission of Esther's sister Abigail, "wife of M^r Sam^{ll} Garfield Sen^r," on 13 August 1758.

1774.”^[98] Sheldon’s *History of Deerfield* confirms that John Birge “m. Esther —, who was rec’d by the chh. here fr. the chh. in Spencer, May 22 1774.”^[99]

No probate has been found for either John or Esther.

Children of John and Esther (Peirce) Birge, all born at Deerfield:^[100]

- i. BOHAN BIRGE [son], b. 15 Sept. 1772; d. Deerfield 20 Sept. 1785.^[101]
- ii. ABI BIRGE, b. 22 Aug. 1774; m. Charlemont, Mass., 23 March 1797 ORIN ROGERS.^[102]
- iii. JOHN BIRGE, b. 14 Nov. 1776; d. Deerfield 24 July 1778.^[103]
- iv. JOHN BIRGE, b. 27 May 1780; m. Northampton, Mass., 26 Sept. 1805 HANNAH STRONG.^[104]

(to be continued)

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⁹⁸ Ibid., A:74.

⁹⁹ Sheldon, *History of Deerfield* [note 93], 2:84.

¹⁰⁰ *Vital Records of Deerfield* [note 91], 31, mistakenly shows daughter Abi as a son. Compare with original Deerfield vital records, transcript of “Old Book” 44 (*Massachusetts Vital Records: Deerfield 1675–1898*, 18 microfiche [Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 1987], fiche 2, image 17). In the Old Testament, Abi was the mother of King Hezekiah.

¹⁰¹ *Vital Records of Deerfield* [note 91], 266. In the Old Testament, Bohan was a descendant of Reuben.

¹⁰² *Vital Records of Charlemont, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1917), 94, 120.

¹⁰³ *Vital Records of Deerfield* [note 91], 266.

¹⁰⁴ Northampton vital records [note 93], 1:192, “John Birge/Brattleboro & Miss Hannah Strong of this Town.” See also Sheldon, *History of Deerfield* [note 93], 2:84.

THE NATHANIEL AND ANNA (BALCH) (RICH) WALLIS FAMILY OF BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS

*Michael Boyer O'Leary and John Bradley Arthaud**

Nathaniel Wallis, who died at Beverly, Massachusetts, 18 October 1709, aged about 77,^[1] has long been considered to have had a namesake son.^[2] However, the younger Nathaniel is not named either in his putative father's will signed 16 June 1699 or in a codicil dated 22 February 1704/5.^[3] Although Nathaniel¹ Wallis treated in the present article was called Nathaniel Wallis, Jr., in Beverly in 1707, the "Jr." only reflects that he was younger than the man who died in 1709. The mere association in time and place is insufficient to assume that these two men were father and son.

1. NATHANIEL¹ WALLIS was born say 1670 to unidentified parents, and died, probably at Danvers, Massachusetts, between 7 March 1749[/50?] and 1 April 1762.^[4] On 23 April 1762, his son-in-law, Benjamin Raymond of Beverly, wrote to Deacon Benjamin Woodbury of Sutton, Massachusetts, informing him that "M^r. Nath^l Wallis of Danvers" was "lately deceased."^[5] Nathaniel married first at Beverly on 21 March 1698, **ANNA (BALCH) RICH**,^[6] daughter of Benjamin³ (*Benjamin², John¹*) and Elizabeth (Woodbury) Balch,^[7] and probably their unnamed child born prior to 11 October 1674.^[8] Anna was the widow of Edward

* Our thanks to David C. Dearborn, FASG, who reviewed several records and made numerous helpful comments.

¹ *Vital Records of Beverly, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Topsfield, Mass.: Topsfield Historical Society, 1907), 2:593, says born "County of Cornwell, Great Britain." This Nathaniel Wallis possibly was the child of that name baptized 15 July 1632 at St. Ewe, Cornwall, England (David C. Dearborn and John Bradley Arthaud, "The Nathaniel Wallis Family of Maine and Essex County, Massachusetts," *The Maine Genealogist* 29 [May 2007]:51–68).

² Sybil Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby, and Walter Goodwin Davis, *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* (Portland, Maine: Southworth-Anthoensen Press, 1928–39, repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1973), 716.

³ Essex County Probate, 310:178–80. They were presented at court on 30 December 1709.

⁴ Nathaniel died between the date of his will and its probate, probably much closer to the latter date. The inventory of his estate was dated 5 April 1762 (*ibid.*, 339:77). Galusha B. Balch, *Genealogy of the Balch Families in America* (Salem, Mass.: Eben Putnam, 1897), 26, states that he died "at a very advanced age," probably based on his known dates of marriage and probate.

⁵ Worcester County Probate, file 18368, at the Western Worcester District Trial Court Records Center, East Brookfield, Massachusetts. There are several documents in the file that are not included in the record books on Family History Library microfilm.

⁶ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:325.

⁷ "Balch Genealogy," *Essex Antiquarian* 6 (1902):1–14, 184, at 2; Balch, *Balch Families* [note 4], 26; Frank A. Randall, *Randall and Allied Families* (Chicago: Raveret-Weber, 1943), 429.

⁸ William P. Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly, Massachusetts, 1667–1772* (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1905), 18 (Benjamin and Elizabeth were censured on 11 October 1674 for having a child born before their marriage).

Rich,^[9] and was baptized as Anna Rich, widow, at the First Church in Beverly on 26 July 1696.^[10] She probably was the Anna Wallis, “w. Nathaniel,” died at Beverly on 23 August 1726.^[11] Edward Rich, who died in Beverly 23 March 1695, aged about 25 years, and his wife Anna were the parents of a daughter, Anna Rich, who was born at Beverly on 9 January 1694/5 and died there 19 January 1694/5, age about 10 days.^[12]

Nathaniel married second at Beverly on 7 September 1727, **ELIZABETH (BLACK) WALLIS**, born at Beverly 31 May 1686, daughter of John and Deborah (____) Black, and widow of Joseph² (*John*¹) Wallis.^[13] Elizabeth died, probably at Danvers, between 30 October 1746, when she, then of Salem, signed her will, and 2 January 1761, when it was proved.^[14] On 6 July 1761 Hannah Prince sold land which Elizabeth Wallis, “late of Danvers” gave to me by her last will.^[15] Danvers was formed from Salem in 1752.

On 5 April 1734, Ebenezer Wallis, joiner of Beverly, and Richard Whittredge, carpenter of Beverly, and Ann his wife quitclaimed to Ebenezer Raymond their right in the estate of “our mother Ann Wallis of which our father is tenant by courtesy” in return for £50 paid by Nathaniel and for Nathaniel’s having deeded them on 3 April 1734 a parcel of land in Salem.^[16]

On 5 April 1734, Nathaniel Wallis of Beverly, yeoman, sold to Ebenezer Raymond of Beverly his right and interest in a six-acre tract in Beverly, which had come to him by his late wife, Anna Balch. Wallis noted that his daughter, the wife of David Ellenwood, would not release her share and that his “Grandchild Anna Wallis Daughter of my Son Nathaniel Wallis now Deceased another heir to my said Wife is not of age and cannot release her right.” Wallis, in an attempt to provide Raymond with a clear title, described contingencies to be in effect after his death depending on the actions of his daughter and his granddaughter after the latter became of age.^[17]

Nathaniel Wallis, yeoman of Salem, signed his will on 7 March 1749[50?] naming wife Elizabeth, son Ebenezer, son-in-law Richard Whittredge, “granddaughter Anna, daughter of my son Nathaniel Deceased,” and three daughters, Margaret, Ann, and Mary. He named “well beloved son in law

⁹ “Balch Genealogy” [note 7], *Essex Antiquarian* 6:184.

¹⁰ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 116.

¹¹ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:590.

¹² *Ibid.*, 1:281 (birth of daughter Anna); 2:543 (deaths).

¹³ *Ibid.*, 1:45 (birth); 2:322 (both her marriages); George Freeman Sanborn Jr., “Mary (Phippen) (Wallis) Black,” *Register* 153 (1999):291–92; Nathaniel Lane Taylor and John Fipphen, “Another Husband for Mary (Phippen) (Wallis) (Morgan) Black: Samuel² Morgan (*Robert*¹) of Beverly, Mass.” *Register* 160 (2006):99–100.

¹⁴ Essex County Probate, file 28838, 337:467–68.

¹⁵ Essex County Deeds, 164:94; John Bradley Arthaud, “John Wallis Family of Cape Ann, Massachusetts,” *Register* 152 (1998):286–310, 391–414; 153 (1999):29–51, 183–206, 293–318, 489–498, at 489 (discussion of the will and estate settlement).

¹⁶ Essex County Deeds, 67:33.

¹⁷ Essex County Deeds, 66:98–99.

Benjamin Raymond” as sole executor. Nathaniel “late of Salem now Danvers,” was deceased by 1 April 1762, when his will was filed for probate. On 23 September 1771, division was made to the “heirs of Anna Ames daughter of dec^d Son Nath’l” and to three daughters and their husbands.^[18] The final settlement of his estate extended through four generations until 26 August 1782, with the last deeds recorded in 1788 (see below).

Children of Nathaniel¹ and Anna (Balch) (Rich) Wallis, born at Beverly:^[19]

- i. MARGARET² WALLIS, b. 1 Nov. 1699. She probably d. young unless she was baptized after her younger brother.
- 2 ii. NATHANIEL WALLIS, b. 11 Nov. 1700, bp. 7 Dec. 1701; m. ANSTISS HAINES.
- iii. MARGARET WALLIS, bp. First Church, Beverly, 20 Sept. 1702;^[20] bur. Beverly as a widow, 16 Sept. 1778 age 77;^[21] m. Beverly 6 Dec. 1725 DAVID ELLENWOOD, bp. Beverly 16 Aug. 1696;^[22] bur. Beverly 6 March 1777 age 78,^[23] son of John and Elizabeth (Rowlandson) Ellenwood.^[24]
- iv. ANNA WALLIS, b. 6 May 1705; bp. First Church, Beverly, 8 July 1705;^[25] d. before 11 June 1776;^[26] m. Beverly 18 July 1728 RICHARD WHITTREDGE.^[27] b. there 22 Dec. 1704, son of Thomas and Sarah (____) Whittredge.^[28]
- 3 v. EBENEZER WALLIS, b. 9 June 1707; m. MARY HULL.
- vi. JOSIAH WALLIS, b. 2 May 1711; bp. First Church, Beverly, 26 Aug. 1711;^[29] not mentioned in his father’s will.
- vii. MARY WALLIS, b. 30 Oct. 1713; bp. First Church, Beverly, 20 June 1714;^[30] d. Beverly in 1762;^[31] m. Beverly 4 Feb. 1736/7 BENJAMIN RAYMOND,^[32] b. there 1 Dec. 1699, bp. First Church, Beverly, 31 Dec. 1699, d. Beverly 3 May 1784, son of Nathaniel and Rebecca (Conant) Raymond,^[33] and widower of Mary Trask.^[34]

¹⁸ Essex County Probate, file 28865, 339:31–32, 77–78; 347:186, 188.

¹⁹ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 1:349–50, 351, 354.

²⁰ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 124.

²¹ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:427.

²² *Ibid.*, 1:121 (baptism); 2:325 (marriage); Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 116.

²³ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:427.

²⁴ Robert Charles Anderson, George Freeman Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume II C–F* (Boston: NEHGS, 2001), 423.

²⁵ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 129.

²⁶ Essex County Deeds, 147:98, when her husband described her as deceased.

²⁷ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:334.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, 1:365, as “Whitrig,” with parents’ first names.

²⁹ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 141. Another Josiah Wallis, born 10 May 1710/1 [sic], is shown in *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 1:354 (as son of Nathaniel and Anna); presumably this is the same child.

³⁰ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 146.

³¹ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:541, from Second Church records.

³² *Ibid.*, 2:325, she as “Mrs. Mary Wallis, of Salem.”

³³ *Ibid.*, 1:274 (birth); Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 120; Samuel Edward Raymond, *Raymond Genealogy*, 2 vols. (Seattle, Wash., 1969–72), 2:15–16, 31–34;

2. NATHANIEL² WALLIS (*Nathaniel¹*) was born at Beverly on 11 November 1700 and was baptized at the First Church there on 7 December 1701.^[35] He died before 1 June 1729, the date of his widow's second marriage. On 5 April 1734 his father described him as deceased. He married at Marblehead, Massachusetts, 12 September 1726, **ANSTISS HAINES**,^[36] born there 26 June 1707,^[37] daughter of Francis² (*William¹*) and Elizabeth (Hooper) Haines.^[38] She married second, as "Annis Wallis," at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Marblehead, 1 June 1729, Marmaduke Snow.^[39] She died at Gloucester, Massachusetts, 20 July 1731 age 23.^[40]

Child of Nathaniel² and Anstiss (Haines) Wallis:

- i. ANNA³ WALLIS, bp. Second Church, Marblehead 7 Jan. 1728[9?],^[41] d. before 13 May 1762.^[42] She was "of Salem" when her intentions to marry JACOB EAMES/AMES were recorded at Boxford, Mass., on 13 Feb. 1744/5.^[43] He was b. there 17 July 1717,^[44] d. after 4 May 1762^[45] and possibly after 7 June 1773 (see below), son of Joseph and Jemima (Hoyt) Eames.^[46] Jacob is described as "formerly of Sutton" in Benjamin Woodbury's account of his expenses as guardian of Ames' children, Nathaniel, Jemima, Annis, Mary, and Jacob. That account begins with an expense on 4 Dec. 1762 and ends with its presentation to John Chandler, Judge of Probate, on 7 June 1773.^[47] Benjamin Raymond,

Frederick Odell Conant, *A History and Genealogy of the Conant Family in England and America*, 2 vols. (Portland, Maine: privately printed, 1887), 1:161.

³⁴ Deborah Kimball Nowers, "Osmond¹ Trask and His Family of Salem and Beverly, Massachusetts," *Register* 161 (2007):47–61 at 59.

³⁵ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 122.

³⁶ *Vital Records of Marblehead, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1903–08), 2:448 (bride's name given as "Agnes"); *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:325.

³⁷ *Vital Records of Marblehead* [note 36], 1:250.

³⁸ *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* [note 2], 295.

³⁹ *Vital Records of Marblehead* [note 36], 2:398, 448.

⁴⁰ *Vital Records of Gloucester, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Topsfield, Mass.: Topsfield Historical Society; Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1917–24), 3:289 (Anna Snow, wife of Marmaduke, citing G. R. 1 [Bridge Street Cemetery]).

⁴¹ *Vital Records of Marblehead* [note 36], 1:539.

⁴² Essex County Probate, file 28865 (division of her grandfather's estate).

⁴³ *Vital Records of Boxford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Topsfield, Mass.: Topsfield Historical Society, 1905), 137; *Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 6 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1916–25), 4:429.

⁴⁴ *Vital Records of Boxford* [note 43], 31.

⁴⁵ Essex County Deeds, 142:323, when Jacob sold Eames land, which was not part of the division of the Nathaniel Wallis estate.

⁴⁶ "Ames Genealogy," *Essex Antiquarian* 3 (1899):88–90; Wilmot Spofford Ames, "Ames Genealogy, Vol. 1, Part 1, Robert Eames (Ames), 1640–1693, of Andover and Boxford," (Gardiner, Maine: Ames Typewriter Press, 1943), typescript, Mss 731 in R. Stanton Avery Special Collections, NEHGS, 21.

⁴⁷ Worcester County Probate, file 18368 [note 5]; 12:326. The striking out of "of Sutton" in the original followed by "formerly of Sutton," instead of "late of Sutton," suggests that the father Jacob moved from Sutton sometime between 1762 and 1773. In the same sentence, Woodbury

executor of Anna's grandfather's will, described Eames as "not a suitable person" to handle the portion of Nathaniel Wallis' estate that went to the Eames children.^[48] Five Sutton selectman, in a letter dated Sutton 3 May 1762, to "the Honourable John Chandler, Esq., Judge of Probate" wrote that they "judge Mr. Benjamin Woodbery to be a suitable guardian to ye children of Jacob Ames of Sutton who have an Estate fell to them by their grate [*sic*] grandfather and their own father we judge unfit to take care of ye affair."^[49] Jacob Ames might be the man of that name who married at Sutton 30 Dec. 1761 Betty Robins.^[50]

Children of Jacob and Anna (Wallis) Ames, living in 1762,^[51] four of whom as adults sold their great-grandfather's land:

1. *Nathaniel Ames*, b. Boxford, 2 Jan. 1745/6;^[52] d. before 3 June 1776 when his sister Annis sold one fourth (which would have been one fifth if he were living) of their great-grandfather's land. On 4 May 1762 Nathaniel Eames, a minor about age 16, chose Benjamin Woodbury of Sutton, gentleman, to be his guardian.^[53]
2. *Jemima Ames*, b. 3 May 1752,^[54] bp. Sutton 20 Oct. 1754;^[55] d. Charlton, Mass., 20 June 1802;^[56] m. there 25 Nov. 1768 *Nathan McIntire, Jr.*,^[57] b., probably at Oxford, Mass., 21 April 1736, d. Charlton 4 March 1823, son of Nathan and Jemima (McIntire) McIntire.^[58] Jemima was described as "aged about ten years" in her 4 May 1762 guardianship papers.^[59] On 31 May 1773, with her husband, "Nathan Mackintier" of Charlton, she sold to Richard Whittridge of Danvers the land she had inherited from her great-grandfather Nathaniel Wallis of Danvers.^[60]
3. *Annis[e] Ames*, bp. Sutton 1 Dec. 1754.^[61] She was described as "aged about eight years" in her 4 May 1762 guardianship papers.^[62] On 3 June

describes the children as "and great grandchildren of Nath'l Wallis, *late* of Danvers" [emphasis added].

⁴⁸ Worcester County Probate, file 18368 [note 5], letter of 23 April 1762.

⁴⁹ Worcester County Probate, file 18368 [note 5]; 218:311.

⁵⁰ *Vital Records of Sutton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1907), 200.

⁵¹ Worcester County Probate, file 18368 [note 5]; 12:326.

⁵² *Vital Records of Boxford* [note 43], 31.

⁵³ Worcester County Probate, file 18368 [note 5]; 218:311.

⁵⁴ Robert Harry McIntire, *Descendants of Philip McIntire*, rev. ed. (Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1982), 31, for her birth date.

⁵⁵ *Vital Records of Sutton* [note 50], 10.

⁵⁶ *Vital Records of Charlton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1905), 254.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, 120, 183.

⁵⁸ McIntire, *Descendants of Philip McIntire* [note 54], 19, 31; *Vital Records of Charlton* [note 56], 254 (death); *Vital Records of Salem* [note 43], 3:46 (parents' marriage).

⁵⁹ Worcester County Probate, file 18368 [note 5].

⁶⁰ Essex County Deeds, 147:97–98, acknowledged 5 June 1773, recorded 21 January 1788.

⁶¹ *Vital Records of Sutton* [note 50], 10.

⁶² Worcester County Probate [note 5], file 18334.

1776, with her husband, *John Stafford*, yeoman of Scituate, R.I., she sold to Richard Whitridge of Danvers the land she had inherited from her great-grandfather, Nathaniel Wallis of Danvers.^[63]

4. *Jacob Ames*, bp. Sutton 4 June 1749 [*sic*],^[64] which undoubtedly should be 1759. His first guardian, Benjamin Woodbury, was appointed 4 May 1762, Jacob described as “a Minor aged above two years.” On 29 Aug. 1779, Jacob “Eams” of Charlton, aged 19, chose Jacob Davis of Charlton as his guardian, and on 16 Sept. 1779 Jacob Davis Esq. of Charlton posted bond, Jacob being son of Jacob Eames late of Sutton.^[65] He was a yeoman of Charlton on 26 Aug. 1782 when he sold his share of his great-grandfather’s land to William Whitridge.^[66] This is the last transaction regarding the land of Nathaniel Wallis.
5. *Mary Ames*,^[67] b. ca. 1761;^[68] m. Charlton 18 Jan. 1781 *Nehemiah McIntire*,^[69] b. there 24 Nov. 1758,^[70] son of Zebulon and Hannah (McIntire) McIntire.^[71] On 17 April 1782 Nehemiah McIntire, yeoman of Charlton, and his wife Mary sold her share of her great-grandfather’s land to William Whitridge.^[72]

3. EBENEZER² WALLIS (*Nathaniel*¹) was born at Beverly 9 June 1707 and was baptized at the First Church there on 10 August 1707.^[73] He married at Beverly 22 December 1732 **MARY HULL**,^[74] who was born there 24 March 1714/5, daughter of Isaac and Anna (Wood) Hull.^[75]

On 2 March 1736/7, Ebenezer Wallis, housewright of Beverly, and his wife Mary sold five acres in Beverly, land that “our father” Isaac Hull, late of Beverly, had purchased from Sarah Sweeting, for £120 to Nathaniel Browne, weaver of Beverly.^[76]

Between 2 March 1736/7 and 13 October 1738, Ebenezer and Mary sold other tracts of land in Beverly, Wenham, and Salem.^[77] On 14 August 1738, Ebenezer

⁶³ Essex County Deeds, 147:98, recorded 21 January 1788.

⁶⁴ *Vital Records of Sutton* [note 50], 10.

⁶⁵ Worcester County Probate [note 5], file 18357; 218:310. We interpret the 1762 document to mean he was only slightly over 2 years old.

⁶⁶ Essex County Deeds, 147:99, recorded 21 January 1788.

⁶⁷ Worcester County Probate [note 5], file 18366, guardianship 1762.

⁶⁸ Mary Ames’ brother Jacob was baptized 4 June 1759, and their mother was dead by 13 May 1762.

⁶⁹ *Vital Records of Charlton* [note 56], 120.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, 69.

⁷¹ McIntire, *Descendants of Philip McIntire* [note 54], 553 (unplaced section); *Vital Records of Oxford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1905), 200 (parents’ marriage).

⁷² Essex County Deeds, 147:98, recorded 21 January 1788.

⁷³ Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 134. The birth and baptismal records both call the father Nathaniel Wallis, Jr.

⁷⁴ *Vital Records of Beverly* [note 1], 2:324.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 1:188 (birth); 2:170 (parents’ marriage).

⁷⁶ Essex County Deeds, 74:284; recorded 21 May 1739.

⁷⁷ Essex County Deeds, 73:209; 76:108; 94:120, 169.

Wallis, housewright of Beverly, paid £405 in current bills of credit to Samuel Allen and Samuel Allen, Jr., for seventy-five acres in the southwest part of Brimfield, Massachusetts.^[78] They probably moved to Brimfield within the next few months as the birth of a child was recorded there in December 1738.

No probate or later deeds have been found for Ebenezer or Mary in Hampshire County.

Known children of Ebenezer² and Mary (Hull) Wallis; births recorded at Brimfield.^[79] Research on these children as adults has been either unsuccessful or inconclusive so far.

- i. MARY³ WALLIS, b. 1 Dec. 1738.
- ii. SARAH WALLIS, b. 1 Jan. 1739/40.
- iii. EBENEZER WALLIS, b. 26 July 1742.
- iv. NATHANIEL WALLIS, b. 11 March 1744[5?].

ADDENDUM

John Bradley Arthaud

Did Nathaniel¹ Wallis, discussed above, have a sister ABIGAIL WALLIS, born about 1672, who married about 1692 THOMAS SALLOWES, born in 1665?^[80]

Handwritten records, arranged alphabetically by family groups, at the city hall in Beverly have "Wallis" as her maiden name,^[81] as do the annotated Beverly church records.^[82] Thomas and Abigail (____) Sallows had eight children whose births and/or baptisms 1693–1708 were recorded at Beverly.^[83] If the maiden name of Thomas Sallows' wife actually was Wallis, she possibly was a sister of Nathaniel¹ Wallis, discussed above. There was no known widow, Abigail (____) Wallis, to be the wife of Thomas Sallows.

Abigail (____) Sallows has been previously placed, without documentation, as a daughter of Nathaniel¹ Wallis who died in Beverly in 1709.^[84] She surely was not his daughter as she was not named in either his will or codicil. An undocumented account claims she was the daughter of his son, Caleb² Wallis

⁷⁸ Hampshire County Deeds [now in Hampden County], L:120.

⁷⁹ *Vital Records of Brimfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1931), 143.

⁸⁰ John Bradley Arthaud, "The Sallows-Solas-Sollis-Sollace Family: Mariners of Salem and Beverly, Massachusetts," *The American Genealogist* 72 (1997):1–14, 115–134, at 116.

⁸¹ "Wallis" appears to have been added in a different handwriting. This account of the Sallows family can also be found in *Massachusetts Vital Records: Beverly, 1663–1892*, 151 microfiche (Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 1989), fiche 15, p. 121.

⁸² Upham, *Records of the First Church in Beverly* [note 8], 117, 118, 121, 131, 135. See John Bradley Arthaud, "History of the Annotations of the Beverly Church Records," *The Essex Genealogist* 19 (1999):204–05.

⁸³ Arthaud, "Sallows Family" [note 80], *The American Genealogist* 72:118–20.

⁸⁴ Fred E. Crowell, "New Englanders in Nova Scotia," microfilm (Boston: NEHGS, 1979), under family 283, "Sollows," p. 220.

(1667–1714),^[85] but this is chronologically impossible. And she was not a daughter or granddaughter of John¹ and Mary (Phippen) Wallis.^[86]

All entries in Essex County indexed for Sallows grantors and grantees through 1799 were read. As the land records appear to have been indexed to include names within the text, her ancestry is not likely hidden within the deeds.

Onomastics provide slight support. Ebenezer and Josiah, names that first appear in the Sallows family as children of Abigail (____) Sallows, have some association with the family of Nathaniel¹ and Anna (Balch) (Rich) Wallis, who had sons Ebenezer and Josiah. Lydia is a name new to both the Wallis and Sallows families. The names of the other five children of Abigail (____) Sallows occur in the Sallows family: Abigail, [H]anna, John, Joseph, and Thomas.

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⁸⁵ *Yarmouth Genealogies*, #61; *The Yarmouth Herald* 9 August 1898, reprinted in George S. Brown, *Yarmouth, Nova Scotia Genealogies* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993), 389. The account has Abigail’s birth date as 22 June 1667 [*sic*], which is the birth date of Abigail Sallows, the sister, not wife, of Thomas Sallows.

⁸⁶ Arthaud, “John Wallis Family” [note 15], *Register* 152:288–90.

GENEALOGIST JOHN FARMER DISCOVERS HIS ANCESTRY:
THE WARWICKSHIRE FAMILY OF EDWARD¹ FARMER,
THOMAS¹ POLLARD, AND ISABEL¹ (FARMER) (WYMAN)
(BLOOD) GREEN, OF BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS

*Nathaniel Lane Taylor**

(continued from Register 161 [2007]:72)

PART 3: THE REAL ANSLEY FARMERS

In the first two installments of this article we have followed genealogist John Farmer (1789–1838) as he undertook a quest for the English origins of his family, which came to Billerica around 1671. First, as a young man, he inherited and digested a trove of seventeenth-century documents which illuminated the immediate kin of his immigrant ancestors and told of financial and family entanglements with their home parish of Ansley, Warwickshire. Years later he made contact with an English fourth cousin, who assured him that their shared ancestral line derived from a gentry family in the next county, the Farmers of Ratcliffe Culey, Leicestershire. On closer examination, that claim proved to be chronologically difficult and based on nothing more than an unsupported assertion. Despite his cousin's claims, genealogist John Farmer's statements about his own ancestry remained rooted in the earliest ancestor he could prove: John^A Farmer, of Ansley, Warwickshire, father of his immigrant ancestor Edward¹ Farmer of Billerica. As it turns out, review of primary sources pertaining to Ansley, Warwickshire, sources essentially inaccessible to an early nineteenth-century New Englander, have readily pointed out a much more plausible, non-gentry ancestry for John^A Farmer.

As a first step, all Farmer entries were extracted afresh from the Ansley parish register, which survives only from 1637 onwards. We confirmed the record of the marriage of John^A Farmer and Isabel Burbage on 13 August 1633 at the neighboring parish of Arley, which had long been known (although, curiously, the Arley register provides *no* other Farmer entries at all). Here follow all Farmer entries for our period (plus additional records for known grandchildren of John^A Farmer) from the registers of the adjacent parishes of Ansley, Arley, and Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire:

* Harlow G. Farmer, of Annapolis, Maryland, a ninth-generation descendant of Edward¹ Farmer, died 31 January 2007. Harlow had for many years been pursuing Farmer origins in correspondence with other interested descendants, a collaboration that set the stage for the present article. Even in his last illness, Harlow maintained a keen interest and a critical eye that contributed significantly to this work.

Ansley:^[42]

- 1637 Nov 15 Anne, daughter of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabella his wife, baptized
- 1640 Sep 13 Marye daughter of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabell his wife, baptized
- 1643 Apr 30 Richard sonne of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabella his wife, baptized
- 1645 May 22 Edward sonne of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabella his wife, baptized
- 1648 Jul 1 Elizabeth daughter of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabella his wife, baptized
- 1650 Jun 3 Sarah daughter of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabella his wife, baptized
- 1652 Aug 11 Isabell daughter of John Farmer, yeoman, and Issabell his wife, baptized
- 1652 Nov 20 Elizabeth Farmer, widow, buried
- 1655 Aug 16 Thomas sonne of John Farmer, yeoman, and Isabella his wife “was born August the 16th and baptized September the 26th”
- 1658 Aug 22 John Farmer, yeoman, buried
- 1662 Nov 18 John Farmer and Elizabeth Forde, married
- 1664 Aug 15 John Farmer, buried
- 1666 Dec 28 Thomas sonne of William Pollard and Mary his wife, baptized
- 1668 Aug 30 Elizabeth daughter of William Pollard and Mary his wife, baptized
- 1668 Nov 18 Henry Whyte and Elizabeth Farmer, married
- 1669 Apr 1 Sarah daughter of Edward Farmer, husbandman, and Mary his wife, baptized

Arley:^[43]

- 1633 Aug 13 Johannes Farmer et Isabella Burbidge nupta fuerunt xiii^o die Augusti

Chilvers Coton:^[44]

- 1663 Oct 15 John son of John Farmer and Elizabeth his wife, baptized

These data match very well with the Farmer family account known both to Dr. Richard Farmer in England, and to John Farmer in New England; they are laid out in the genealogical summary in the next installment of this article. But the Ansley register, beginning only in 1637, cannot itself be used to build the genealogy back beyond John^A Farmer. Fortunately, it was not necessary to look very far for leads to an earlier generation.

⁴² Parish registers of Ansley, Warwickshire [FHL 0,554,793]. This presents a slightly more complete set of entries than those given by Myrtle S. Hyde, “Farmer Note” [note 13], *Register* 126:298. The Pollard baptisms extracted here, including that of immigrant Thomas¹ Pollard of Billerica, have not previously been published.

⁴³ Parish registers of Arley, Warwickshire [FHL 0,548,395]. Another marriage entry for an Isabella Burbage appears in the Arley register, representing a curious coincidence: “Edmundus Manston et Isbella Burbage iuxta fuerunt junii trigesimo die” [1634]. This can only refer to another Isabel Burbage since the Isabel Burbage who married John^A Farmer in 1633 is obviously the woman who continues as his wife and mother of children born circa 1635 to 1655. There are no other Burbage entries in the Arley register in this era.

⁴⁴ Parish registers of Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire [FHL 0,548,399]. The early part of the first register, which begins in 1654, is barely legible on film; there appear to be no other Farmer entries for many years after 1663.

Two documents revealed the presence of Farmers in the parish of Ansley antedating John^A Farmer, and suggested an obvious candidate in Ansley for his father. The first of these documents was known to Dr. Richard Farmer, and can only have been known to him by being handed down in the family. It was mentioned in 1822 by his nephew, Rev. Thomas Farmer, to genealogist John Farmer of New England, and also noted in the Farmer account in John Nichols' *History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester*. The document is a fine, or final concord from the Court of Common Pleas, dated 12 November 1604, in which John Farmer, of Ansley, deforciant, quitclaimed a substantial parcel of farmlands there to Humphrey Smythe and Thomas Packwood, querents, for the conventional sum of seventy pounds.^[45]

The second document is the only will of any Farmer of Ansley found in the principal probate jurisdiction for northern Warwickshire, the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry — the 1625 will of one “John Farmer alias Johnson,” of Ansley, who, despite the interesting addition of an alias at the opening of his will, signed the will simply “John Farmer.” An abstract follows here:^[46]

⁴⁵ The National Archives, CP 25/2/365/2JASIMICH. I assume this can only have been known from a copy of the fine held in the family, to descendant Dr. Richard Farmer of Emanuel College, whose notes that “John Farmer passed a fine in Ansley, 1604” were printed in Nichols' *History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester* [note 30], vol. 4.2, p. 950, and also quoted by Richard's nephew Rev. Thomas Farmer in his first letter to John Farmer of New Hampshire. As noted in the previous installment, John Farmer of New Hampshire did not recognize the technical meaning of a fine, and miscopied the phrase as “passing a time” in his manuscript copy of correspondence from Rev. Thomas Farmer. However, the passing of a fine is correctly mentioned in Nichols. Recognizing the original meaning, I commissioned a search for such a fine among the Warwickshire feet of fines for Michaelmas term 1604; genealogist Margaret Baker, of Brentwood, Essex, readily found the original fine. The parcel conveyed by Farmer to Smythe and Packwood consisted of “one messuage, one garden, one orchard, twelve acres of land, four acres of fields, ten acres of pasture, and five acres of woods.”

⁴⁶ Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, probate series, letter F, 1623–31 [FHL 0,095,387]. There is no definitive rule explaining the use of an alias in particular circumstances. While one well-known reason for the adoption of an alias is the inheritance of property from a maternal relative, this particular scenario is much more common among the gentry than below, and since the family in question was of the yeomanry, one should consider other alternatives as well. On the practice of aliases generally, thoughtful guides are P. H. Reaney, *The Origin of English Surnames* (London: Routledge & K. Paul, 1967); the chapter “Changes of Name” in George Redmonds, *Surnames and Genealogy: A New Approach* (Boston: NEHGS, 1997), 99–120; and David Hey, *Family Names and Family History* (London: Hambledon & London, 2000). Anthony R. Wagner sums up the broad categories of alias usage in *English Genealogy*, 3rd ed. (Chichester, England: Phillimore, 1983), 62. Lilian J. Redstone, “Use of an Alias in English Surnames,” *The American Genealogist* 17 (1940-41):68–69, boils down a sensible discussion to the point that “it is only by studying the . . . particular case that one can be certain of the reason for . . . a second surname.” The pairing of the occupational name Farmer with a patronymic name Johnson suggests a situation in which the patronymic may have been added to distinguish one individual from others nearby with the same name. Adding a patronymic to an occupational name is most commonly found among the Welsh, and appears to have been less common elsewhere. Since there are no Johnsons in the Ansley register when it begins in 1637, it seems likely that the next generation of this family all used simply Farmer as their surname. The fact that the testator signed this will

22 September 1625. I John Farmer alias Johnson of Anceley in the County of Warwick yeoman . . . my body to be buried in the Churchyard of Anceley aforesaid. To Josias Packwode and to James Bush my Godsons 12 d. apiece. To the poore of my parish 3 s. 4 d. To my sonne John my house and land where I dwell. To my sonne Edward my house & land at Twycrosse [and] £3 toward the setting up of his trade. To my daughter Hanna & to her two daughters 12 d. apiece. To my other four daughters Elizabeth, Patience, Mary, & Lydia £16 apiece, of which 20 marks shall be made out of my bedd^[47] and the residue to be paid partely in money & partely in goodes & cattell (the cattle to be appraised and divided by two indifferent men). Their portions to be paid at the day of their mariage or within three years after my decease, whichever shall first happen. If any of the daughters die before inheriting, her portion to be equally divided among those then living. All the rest of my goods (less debts, legacies and funeral expenses) to Elizabeth my wife and to John my son [who are made the executors]. Elizabeth my wife shall joyntly occupy one halfe of my land goodes and cattell with my sonne John during her naturall life if she kepe herselfe widow; [each may dispose of his / her own portion]. I appoint my loving ffriendes & kinsmen Thomas Packwode of Fillongly, William Brooke of Elford & William Keeling of Hollerton my overseers, and give them 10 groates apiece. Hand & seale on date above. Witnesses Basill Smith, clerk; Thomas Packwod. [signed] John Farmer.

[Probate packet includes detailed inventory, 19 October 1625; total valuation of movable estate, £92/6/0.]

As the abstract shows, this John named a wife Elizabeth and seven children (most of them minors), leaving “my house and land where I dwell” at Ansley to his eldest son and heir John, who is almost certainly John^A Farmer, also a yeoman, whom we remember was married in 1633 and maintained a farm at Ansley and an overall household of comparable value to this testator’s. It seems quite compelling, if not beyond any shadow of doubt, that this testator of 1625 is therefore John^B Farmer, father of John^A Farmer and grandfather of Edward¹ of Billerica. As the testator of 1625 had seven children at the time, including a daughter with two daughters of her own, he would likely have been married by say 1605. It is therefore quite likely that he is the John Farmer who made the 1604 fine at Ansley, a copy of which was apparently kept among the English descendants of John^A Farmer.

One compelling Farmer clue in the will is a geographic one — the bequest to “sonne Edward my house and land at Twycross [Leicestershire] and £3 toward the setting up of his trade.” This Twycross legacy, to a second son, is the sole known evidence that suggests these Ansley Farmers may be related after all to the gentry Farmers of Ratcliffe Culey, who were distant cousins with a numerous yeoman Farmer family at Twycross. A systematic review of the extant wills of the Twycross Farmers (not included in this article) shows several untraced males in

“John Farmer,” that there is an attested John Farmer conveying property at Ansley in 1604, and that the apparent Packwood connection (on which see below) *could* be explained through the known marriage of a John Farmer and an Agnes Packwood in neighboring Fillongly a generation previously, leads me to conclude that the addition of “alias Johnson” is most likely a patronymic added to the established surname Farmer in this generation alone.

⁴⁷ “Bedd” is an uncertain reading.

the earliest generations (mid-sixteenth century), who *could* have been ancestral to the Ansley testator. Unfortunately, what can be reconstructed of the Twycross Farmers provides no direct evidence of the ancestry of this John^B Farmer of Ansley, nor do the Twycross parish registers reveal the presence of John^B's younger son Edward in Twycross after 1625.

The Packwoods of Fillongley

Since the Twycross connection did not prove fruitful, our research turned to the Packwoods of Fillongley, which abuts Arley and is only an easy walk from Ansley. Thomas Packwood of Fillongley, "loving friend and kinsman," was an overseer and witness of the will of John^B Farmer; Josias Packwood was John^B Farmer's godson; and John Farmer and Thomas Packwood were seller and buyer of Ansley land in the 1604 fine. Investigating the Packwoods provided not only an explanation of the Farmer-Packwood kinship but also a plausible further extension of the Farmer ancestry.

As with the Farmers in Ansley, the Packwoods of Fillongley turn out to be clear enough to trace in the parish register of Fillongley, combined with wills in the Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. Here follow all Packwood and Farmer entries from the parish register of Fillongley, Warwickshire, with additional Packwood entries from neighboring Arley:

Fillongley:^[48]

1561 Jun 15	Joanna Packwood and Johannes Beck, married
1566 Oct 9	Thomas Packwood buried
1566 Nov 12	William Packwood and Anna Kymberley, married
1568[9] Jan 18	Thomas Packwood, son of William, baptized
1569 May 2	William Packwood, buried
1570 Aug 6	Johannes Farmer and Agnes Packwood, married
1580 Jul 28	Thomas Farmer and Anna Walker, married
1581 Apr 7	Agnes Packwood, widow, buried
1584 Jul 4	Anna Farmer, daughter of Thomas, baptized
1588 Sep 27	Agnes Packwood, buried
1590 May 28	Thomas Packwood and Margeria Greene, married
1591 Aug 28	Anna Packwood, daughter of Thomas, baptized
1594 Jun 9	Anna Farmer uxor Johannis Farmer, buried
1607 Sep 20	Elizabeth Packwood, daughter of Thomas, baptized
1612 Jun 17	Thomas Packwood, son of Thomas, baptized
1615 Apr 14	Thomas filius Thomae Packwood, buried
1620 Oct 16	Edward Farmer and Johanna Alford, married
1621 Jul 17	Hannah Packwood and William Greene, married
1632 Apr 10	Thomas Packwood, buried
1634 Aug 18	Patientia Packwood and Robert Chapman, married
1634[5] Feb 3	Prudentia Packwood, buried
1637[8] Jan 6	Thomas Packwood, son of Josias, clerk, and Mary, baptized

⁴⁸ Parish registers of Fillongley, Warwickshire [FHL 0560705]. Entries for the first 115 years were published as *Transcript of the Old Parish Register of the parish church of Saint Mary and All Saints, Fillongley, county Warwick, 1538-1653, with a short account of the church, the bells, monuments, etc.* (Walsall, England: William Henry Robinson, Steam Print Works, 1893).

1637[8] Jan 7 Thomas Packwood, son of Josias, clerk, and Mary, buried
 1639 Sep 5 Susanna Packwood, daughter of Josias and Mary, baptized [and
 born Aug 31]
 1642 NN Packwood, son of Josias and Mary, baptized [on the 26th of a
 month, but the month not recorded]
 1644 Oct 10 Maria Packwood, daughter of Josias and Mary, baptized
 1644 Oct 16 Maria Packwood, daughter of Josias, buried
 1644[5] Mar 8 Samuel Packwood son of Josias Packwood, clerk, buried
 1645 Oct 2 Thomas Packwood, son of Josias, baptized [and born Sep 18]
 1646 May 6 [Thomas] Packwood, son of Josias, buried

Arley:^[49]

1571 Jul 16 Margery Packwood, baptized
 1576 Oct 1 William Packwood, son of Henry, baptized
 1601 Aug 23 Simeon Packwood, son of Thomas Packwood and Margery,
 baptized
 1635 Oct 26 Margery Packwood, buried

As these entries show, one of the very few Farmer entries in Fillongley is the marriage on 6 August 1570 of “Johannes Farmer” to Agnes Packwood. This immediately presents a scenario to explain the kinship of Farmer and Packwood. A marriage in 1570 is a plausible estimate for the parents of John^B Farmer, the testator of 1625, who could have been born say 1580 and married say 1605. The working hypothesis is extended to make John^B Farmer the son of John^C Farmer and Agnes^C Packwood, married in 1570. That his apparent father was named John also fits with John^B Farmer’s use of the patronymic “alias Johnson.” It is possible that the deforciant of the 1604 fine was either John^C Farmer or his son John^B Farmer.

In the Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, wills were readily found for four of the Fillongley Packwoods, beginning with the Thomas Packwood buried in 1566. His will is abstracted here:^[50]

23 August 1566. I, Thomas Packwood of Fillongley, sick, do . . . bequeath . . . my body to be buried in the church of Fillongley. My wife to live with my son and have “meat and drink” and 4 nobles per year “so long as they can agree together”; if not, then she shall have 4 nobles per year, plus £6-13-4, a featherbed [and various bed-furnishings]. To my “base son” Henry, £6-13-4. My daughter Agnes shall have leave of the house where she now dwelleth. To [my granddaughter] Margaret, daughter of John Beck [by Jone, my daughter], 20 shillings on her marriage. To Agnes Kampyon, “my daughter’s daughter,” 20 shillings on her marriage. To every godchild “that I have nowe alive,” 4 d. To Esabell Elyott “my syster” and each of her children, 12 d. To Thomas Wyse, Elizabeth & Esabell Grene, 4 d. apiece. The rest of all my goods to William my son, whom I make my executor. John Aughtry and my brother Henry Packwood to be overseers. To John Aughtry for his pains 3 s. 4 d.; to brother Henry Packwood, for his pains, “a cote colored pynke.” Witnesses Thomas Gilbert, priest, John Aughtry, John Smyth, Richarde Avere, William Grene (with others). [Probate packet includes inventory, 10 October 1566; total valuation of movable estate, £61/15/0. Will proved 21 October 1566].

⁴⁹ Parish registers of Arley [note 43].

⁵⁰ Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, probate series, letter P, 1560–74 [FHL 0,095,491].

This will, together with three subsequent Packwood wills, unambiguously unites all the Packwoods appearing in Fillongley and Arley into a single extended lineage of four generations. As we see, this first Thomas Packwood mentions a daughter Agnes, still unmarried in 1566, who was surely the woman married to John Farmer four years later. Given our working hypothesis linking John^C Farmer and Agnes Packwood to John^B Farmer, this 1566 testator becomes Thomas^D Packwood, great-grandfather of the immigrant Edward¹ Farmer. His grandson and namesake Thomas Packwood (1569–1632), son of William, would then be first cousin to his “loving friend and kinsman” John^B Farmer; Josias Packwood was Thomas’ son and John^B Farmer’s godson. Unfortunately, the later Packwood wills do not explicitly mention their Farmer kin, so we are left without conclusive confirmation of this relationship, though the coincidences of chronology, proximity, the known Farmer–Packwood marriage, and the known statements of kinship, all add up to a strong circumstantial case. A compiled genealogy of this lineage of Packwood ancestors and cousins will be presented in the fifth and final installment of this article.

The Mustons of Wyken

If their Packwood cousins were important to the Ansley Farmers in the years from the 1570 Farmer-Packwood marriage down to the 1620s, a similar connection one generation later is found in the man who was so instrumental in managing the estate of John^A Farmer after his widow, Isabel (Burbage) Farmer, had immigrated to New England in the 1670s. This man was Thomas Muston of Wyken, Warwickshire. As we saw in the first installment, his letters style him as “brother” to Isabel (Burbage) Farmer and “uncle” to her daughter Elizabeth (Farmer) White (and thus also to Edward¹ Farmer). Muston acted as administrator for the John^A Farmer estate at Ansley from 1676 to 1682. Though called “husbandman” in the record of matriculation of his son at Pembroke College, Cambridge, Muston was a substantial man, being worth £343 in movable goods and salable stock and crops at the time of his death (intestate) in 1684.^[51] He was practically educated — he could both write and keep accounts — and he sent his son, Thomas, to Cambridge to become a priest. As quoted in the first installment of this article, Muston mentioned his son’s studies at Cambridge in his 1674 letter to Isabel Farmer. As with the Packwoods, it was hoped that elucidating his precise relationship to the family would yield insight into the Farmer pedigree.

Just how was Muston a “brother” to Isabel (Burbage) Farmer? Since we have primary evidence that Isabel was a Burbage, not a Muston, by birth (though at least one writer had erroneously assumed otherwise),^[52] we supposed that Thomas Muston was “brother” and “uncle” to the Farmers in right of his own

⁵¹ Administration bond and inventory dated 22 October 1684, Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, probate series, 1684, letters I–O [FHL 0,095,708].

⁵² John Brooks Threlfall, *Fifty Great Migration Colonists to New England and Their Origins* (Madison, Wis.: the author, 1990), 519.

wife, who could have been *either* a Burbage or a Farmer. Unfortunately, Thomas Muston's wife's given name has not been proved, though she is quite likely the "Lidea Muston" who was buried at Wyken 23 October 1682, two years before Thomas Muston's own death.^[53]

Fortunately, the names of all the sisters of both Isabel (Burbage) Farmer and her husband John^A Farmer are known.^[54] Isabel had no sister Lydia, but John did: as his will (above) shows, "Lydia" was the name of John^B Farmer's apparent youngest daughter, perhaps still quite young when he wrote his will in 1625, and therefore of the right age to have married the elder Thomas Muston by say 1650. While again, we lack conclusive proof, Muston's important role in the administration of John^A Farmer's estate, statements of kinship with the Farmers, and the probable name of his wife, all suggest that he was the husband of Lydia, sister of John^A Farmer. Muston's letters to Isabel also mention "Brother Bolt," who may well be the husband of another of the sisters of John^A Farmer — but "Brother Bolt" has not yet been identified, and indeed none of the five sisters of John^A Farmer has been found in marriage records in Ansley or nearby.

The Wyken parish register shows a single child of the elder Thomas Muston: Thomas Muston, son of Thomas, baptized 23 September 1654 (the mother is not named).^[55] This younger Thomas Muston, B.A. Cambridge 1677/8, M.A. 1681, was a priest, becoming rector first, briefly, at his home parish of Wyken, and later at nearby Brinklow, Warwickshire, from 1683 to his death in 1729.^[56] After he

⁵³ Parish registers of Wyken, Warwickshire [FHL 0,548,388]. This entry is extracted in the *National Burial Index* for the Coventry area of Warwickshire, searchable via Family History Online (<http://www.familyhistoryonline.net>). I could not find this entry in the [mis-ordered and apparently incompletely photographed] microfilm of the Wyken register itself.

⁵⁴ An account of the Burbages will appear in the fifth and final installment of this article.

⁵⁵ This 1654 Thomas may have died young, since Thomas Muston's known only son Thomas should have been born about 1657; he was said to be 17 years of age at his matriculation at Pembroke College, Cambridge. John Venn and J. A. Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses: A Biographical List of All Known Students, Graduates and Holders of Office at the University of Cambridge, from the Earliest Times to 1900, Part I (From the Earliest Times to 1751)*, 4 vols. (Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1922–27), 3:230, lists "Muston, Thomas, Adm. sizar (age 17) at Pembroke, Apr 8, 1674. S. of Thomas, husbandman. B. at Wicken, Warws. Matric 1674; BA 1677–8; MA 1681." The same page shows another Thomas Muston, also from Warwickshire (but with no birthplace and parentage stated) grad. St. Catherine's Hall, Cambridge, BA 1679–80, MA 1683, and was a rector in Lincolnshire and canon of Lincoln Cathedral. "Sizar," a term specific to Cambridge University, was a commoner admitted with fees covered by the college under a form of work-study program (*Oxford English Dictionary*, 2nd ed., s.v. "sizar").

⁵⁶ Rev. Thomas Muston was known to genealogist John Farmer, since he is mentioned in Thomas Browne's 1706 letter to Edward Farmer, and was listed in sources available to John Farmer. Thomas Browne wrote of him: "Mr. Muston that was Parson of Wyken is now parson of Brinkelow." Farmer annotated his copy of this letter: "Rev. Thomas Muston became minister of Brinklow, 14 Aug 1683. He was son of Thomas Muston whose letters precede the above" (Farmer Notebook [note 23], 37). On his copy of Muston's letter to Isabel (Burbage) (Farmer) Wiswall, in which Muston speaks of his son, Farmer writes: "This son afterwards was grad. at Pembroke Coll. in the Univ. of Camb. in 1677, & was the minister of Wykin & Brinklow. See following letter [i.e., the Browne letter] and Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, fol., vol. 1, p. 220" (Farmer Notebook [note

left Wyken, Rev. Thomas Muston maintained his ties to his home parish. He married there 30 June 1687, Abigail Wright, perhaps also of Wyken; they had no children. Rev. Thomas Muston died, testate, at Brinklow in 1729.^[57] His will, dated 30 September 1729, was copied into the Wyken parish register since he left a substantial bequest to the church of Wyken.^[58] The will laboriously catalogues Muston's Farmer, Pollard, and other kin in numerous bequests, essentially confirming the genealogy we have reconstructed. A partial abstract of Rev. Thomas Muston's will, showing bequests to kin, is given here (emphasis added):

To my cousin Thomas Burgh of Coventry Esq., and to Mrs. Mary Green with whom he lives, to each a guinea to buy rings. To my cousin Thomas Burgh Junior Esquire the son, and to Mrs. Penelope Fosbroke the daughter of the said Thomas Burgh Senior Esq., £40 and all my rings and silver spoons to be equally divided betwixt them. To my cousin Ichabod Muston of the City of London, tailor, £5. To William Muston, Mary Muston and Sarah Muston son and daughters of my cousin Richard Muston of Sowe, deceased, £30 to be equally divided. To Isabell wife of Richard Orton of Huntley their sister £10. To my cousin **John Farmer of Nuneaton**, to my cousin Sarah, wife of Mr. Henry Homer of Tamworth, and to my cousin Ruth, wife of Joseph Jaques of the City of Coventry, £20 each. And to the said Mrs. Ruth Jaques a large tablecloth and a dozen of napkins — the best that I have of bird's-eye huckaback — and two pair of my best sheets. To **Mary and Catherine** the two daughters of my cousin **John Pollard of the City of Coventry, glover**, lately deceased, £40 to be equally divided between them . . . [when] they attain the age of 21 years. If either one of them die, her share to go to her brother **John Pollard . . .** To the son who lives at Burbidge of my kinsman Thomas Muston late of Daddleton deceased, and his two daughters, £10 amongst them.

[Godsons:] Philip [i.e., Phillips] Farmer son of my cousin John Farmer of Nuneaton; John Jaques son of my cousin Joseph Jaques; and John Knibb son of John Knibb of Ansley. [Goddaughters:] Barbara Wilcox daughter of Mr. John Wilcox of Brandon; and Hannah Knibb daughter of said John Knibb [all to receive one guinea each; Hannah Knibb also to receive Muston's brass fire shovel & tongs, and a chest of drawers].

[Residual heirs:] Mr. Richard Farmer of Leicester, Daniel Muston of Sowe, Thomas Muston brother to Daniel Muston, Joseph Pollard of Rugby, Warwickshire, "my kinsmen" [to divide the remaining estate in equal parts]. Executors to be Richard Farmer and Daniel Muston. Finally, "to my cousin Elisabeth Farmer now living with me," 40 shillings per year.

23], 24). Farmer's reference is to Sir William Dugdale, *The Antiquities of Warwickshire Illustrated . . .*, 2nd ed., 2 vols. (London: J. Osborn and T. Longman, 1730), 1:218–20, on Brinklow, whose list of rectors includes Rev. Thomas Muston as the last entry.

⁵⁷ Rev. Thomas Muston's will endowed a charity benefiting both Wyken and Brinklow: "Muston's Charity: The Revd. Thomas Muston, Rector of Brinklow, by will dated 1729, left a messuage and lands in Foleshill, on trust that from the rents 20s. a year should be paid to the Rector of Brinklow and 10s. to the churchwardens of Wyken to be distributed among the poor of the parish. The residue of the rents was to form an augmentation to the living of Wyken" (R. B. Pugh, ed., *The Victoria History of the Counties of England: Warwickshire*, vol. 8 [London: University of London Press, 1969], 124).

⁵⁸ Parish registers of Wyken [note 53].

As will be corroborated in the compiled genealogical account to follow in the next installment, this will presents a fairly comprehensive catalogue of cousins living in 1729, shared by Rev. Thomas Muston and his cousin Edward¹ Farmer of Billerica. In particular, this will provides insight into the Pollards, who shared equally with the Nuneaton Farmers in Muston's circle of kin, and lived even closer, since Wyken and Brinklow were adjacent to Coventry. While the will confirms the kinship of the Mustons to the Warwickshire Farmer and Pollard descendants of John^A and Isabel (Burbage) Farmer, it also shows that the Billerica Farmers and Pollards had passed out of the circle of remembered kin in this new generation. Expanding on genealogist John Farmer's infant steps in the 1810s and 1820s, we now have illuminated a circle of the Warwickshire ancestors and cousins of his immigrant ancestor, spanning over a hundred and fifty years. Working back into the mid-sixteenth century, we are able to see how these yeomen kinships were formed with marriages and land transactions in neighboring parishes. Looking forward to the eighteenth century, we have a glimpse of the process by which American emigrant cousins were — intentionally or not — forgotten.

To be continued: The fourth installment will present a genealogical account of the Ansley Farmers and Coventry Pollards. The fifth and final installment will present a genealogical account of the Fillongley Packwoods, as well as discussion and accounts of the other ancestral families of Burbage and Moore.

Review Essay: Major Works for New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Missouri

It is a good idea for all genealogists to be aware of major new scholarly publications in genealogy, even if they are not for areas of interest. This is particularly true for works dealing with many families in an area or state, since there are always connections to other states and countries. This review essay will cover five valuable works for the four states listed above; citations and ordering information are given at the end. Some works are new, some are a few years old. All have different formats and goals.

Instead of starting with New York, I will start with Missouri, namely, *Opening the Ozarks: First Families in Southwest Missouri, 1835–1839*, by Marsha Hoffman Rising. This superb four-volume work treats the first thousand people who obtained land from the Springfield Federal Land Office, which opened in 1835. After sixteen years of research, the author was able to identify 85% of them, largely through dint of hard work but also by researching the entire group. Not surprisingly, most were from the southeast: Tennessee (25%), North Carolina and Virginia (20% each), and Kentucky (15%), and most were of Scots-Irish ancestry. Anyone interested in those four states should look at this work as the author's research may help with those who stayed behind. For each of the thousand people there is a biographical sketch, including a list of children and origins (when known). The Introduction discusses the author's methodology. Her original purpose was "to consider the hypothesis that one can locate an individual's origins by tracing the origins of his neighbors and associates," and it is clear that she was been remarkably successful.

Adventurers of Purse and Person: Virginia 1607–1624/5, 4th edition, by John Frederick Dorman, has been published in connection with the 400th anniversary celebration of Jamestown in 2007. The prior editions gave biographical accounts of "adventurers of purse" (i.e., stockholders in the Virginia Company) who had grandchildren who resided in Virginia, and "adventurers of person" who settled in Virginia between 1607 and early 1624/5 and had descendants there. The prior editions included descendants for five generations. The author has polished these accounts, deleted or restricted a few for lack of evidence, and greatly expanded the accounts by tracing descendants in the sixth and seventh generations into the nineteenth century. The results are brilliant. Because the volumes include descendants in female lines, one can readily find reliable genealogical information on many leading citizens of Virginia (including George Washington and Thomas Jefferson) and thousands of other Southerners. The introductory matter includes a copy of the muster of January–February 1624/5 which shows for each resident some or all of the following information: location of residence, name, age, year of immigration and ship, and provisions for each person or family.

Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania: A Biographical Dictionary, Volume Three: 1757–1775, contains excellent biographical accounts of members of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania in the decades before the American Revolution, along with essays and appendices on aspects of lawmaking and legislators in Pennsylvania. Each account is supported by endnotes, and genealogists will be gratified to see the breadth of research underlying many of the accounts. Figures and tables summarize interesting facts about the legislators taken as a group, e.g., age at first election, religious affiliation, occupations, kinship networks in the Assembly, percentage leaving probate records, and ownership of slaves. As with all colonial assemblies, not all members were prominent. Some were farmers and millers, and some were relatively obscure men. The accounts in this volume range from forty pages on Benjamin Franklin to an eighth of a page on John Stanwix. For anyone interested in Pennsylvania at this time, this work may be of great value.

Volume 8 of *Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York*, by Frank J. Doherty, covers the surnames Lee through Millington. Besides definitive accounts of the families in Dutchess County, the author provides pages of information on various unplaced persons in New York State for each surname treated. Much of this information comes from the Eardeley Collection, now online at *NewEnglandAncestors.org* with the title *Abstracts of Wills, Administrations, and Guardianships in New York State, 1787–1835*. Accounts of the families before arrival in Dutchess County are included; many came from downstate New York or from New England.

Genealogical and Biographical Directory of Persons in New Netherland from 1613 to 1674, by David M. Riker, is now the standard reference work for families who lived in seventeenth-century New York, northern New Jersey, or Delaware (within the boundaries of what had been New Netherland up to 1664 and again briefly in 1673–74). For each family or individual, the author has a page with essential information on dates, places, spouses, origins, children, and the names of grandchildren, followed by a list of references — which should always be reviewed. At the end of volume 4 (and again in the Supplement), there is a list of abbreviations and an index of immigrants by the various names they were known by. [Volumes 1–4 are also on a CD-ROM by Family Tree Maker, with an every-name index]. The format of this work is not ideal, but it is incredibly valuable for initial searches, especially when trying to identify persons of the same name or families that used the same surname.

– Henry B. Hoff

Opening the Ozarks: First Families in Southwest Missouri, 1835–1839, by Marsha Hoffman Rising, 4 vols. (Derry, N.H.: American Society of Genealogists, 2006. xcviii + 2,963 pp., index, illustrations, maps. Hardcover, \$195.90 postpaid). Order from the publisher, P.O. Box 1515, Derry, NH 03038-1515.

Adventurers of Purse and Person: Virginia 1607–1624/5, by John Frederick Dorman, 4th ed., 3 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2004–07. xxx + 1,248 pp. (vol. 1), xvi + 1,095 pp. (vol. 2), xvi + 1,089 pp. (vol. 3), indexes. Hardcover, \$89.50 per volume + shipping of \$4.00 for first book, \$2.00 for each subsequent book). Order from the publisher, 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260, Baltimore, MD 21211; tel. 800-296-6687; www.genealogical.com.

Lawmaking and Legislators in Pennsylvania: A Biographical Dictionary, Volume Three: 1757–1775, by Craig W. Horle et al., 2 books (Harrisburg, Pa.: House of Representatives, 2005. xiv + 1,635 pp., index. Hardcover, \$60.00 for both books + \$7.00 shipping). Order from Penn State University Press, 820 N. University Dr., USB 1, Suite C, University Park, PA 16802-1003; 800-326-9180; www.psupress.org.

The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York [Volume VIII Lee to Millington], by Frank J. Doherty (Pleasant Valley, N.Y.: the author and NEHGS, 2005. 1,230 pp., index. Hardcover, \$85.00 postpaid). Order from NEHGS, 888-296-3447; www.NewEnglandAncestors.org.

Genealogical and Biographical Directory of Persons in New Netherland from 1613 to 1674, by David M. Riker, 4 vols. plus Supplement (Mechanicsburg, Pa.: the author, 1999, 2004. Unpaginated, approximately 1,600 pp., indexes. Hardcover, \$195.00 for 4 vols., \$51.00 for Supplement; shipping to be calculated). Order from Higginson Book Co., 148 Washington Street, Salem, MA 01970; 978-745-7170; www.higginsonbooks.com.



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